

WHAT SHAPES THE FUTURE

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A new view of the cosy image of Britain at war, **pages 5, 12**



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Eighteen pages of senior executive opportunities
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THE TIMES

No. 65,234 THURSDAY APRIL 6 1995

Pressure grows for Cabinet reshuffle

Angry Tory MPs savage Bottomley

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

JOHN MAJOR was under mounting pressure to move Virginia Bottomley from her post as Health Secretary last night after she was savaged by Tory MPs over her handling of London hospital closures.

The Prime Minister flew home from Washington to find that the fightback he launched last weekend was already faltering as his backbenchers promised revolt over the threat to St Bartholomew's and Guy's.

In a further blow, the House of Lords ruled that the Home Secretary was acting unlawfully when he introduced a new compensation scheme for the victims of crime without referring it to Parliament.

Mrs Bottomley was felt by some ministers and MPs to have lost the confidence of so many backbenchers that Mr Major would move her to another department in the summer. Many regretted that he did not grant her wish for a change in last year's reshuffle.

After suffering the humiliation of being forced to the Commons to defend her plans yesterday, Mrs Bottomley found herself being lambasted by one Tory MP after another. She was accused of vandalising traditional health services and lacking sensitivity in one of the most unhappy appearances at the despatch box that any Cabinet minister has endured. Labour MPs called on her to resign.

With London's Conservative MPs in an angry mood, the Government's business managers were relieved when the Commons Easter recess began last night. Although there will be time for tempers to cool, several MPs gave notice that they would take any opportunity to vote against plans which include the closure of St Bartholomew's and the running down of Guy's. Labour hopes to stage a debate on the issue before the May local elections, while the Government's majority is eroded by the suspension of two MPs involved in the cash-for-questions affair.



Brooke: tabled question on hospital closures

The Government will be reluctant to grant Labour debating time, but it will also face calls from its own MPs to allow a vote before the changes go ahead. If it does, there is a real possibility of defeat.

While Mrs Bottomley faced almost unprecedented public criticism from Tory MPs, there were also strong private murmurings against her from ministers up to Cabinet rank. They said she had probably got the substance of her decisions right, but had ruined her case by politically mishandling them, and failing to placate backbench critics.

There was unconcealed fury over her failure to win over such a well-liked grandee as Peter Brooke, the former Northern Ireland Secretary, who tabled the emergency question that resulted in her having to answer to the Commons. On Tuesday, Mr Brooke accused the Health Secretary of lacking moral courage by announcing her decisions in a written answer, and it was his remarks that spurred the torrent of attacks yesterday.

The Cabinet seems almost certain to discuss the row today and the atmosphere will be uncomfortable; Mrs Bottomley and John Redwood had a sharp exchange late on Tuesday over the Welsh Secretary's thinly-veiled criticism of her approach earlier in the day.

Mrs Bottomley cut an isolated figure in the Commons as she defended her plans to give London a "first class health service, fit for the 21st century". Sir John Gorst told her that she was doing "the wrong thing, in the wrong way at the wrong time and in the wrong place", and Hugh Dykes startled MPs with a searing personal attack.

He said she had not succeeded "as a senior member of the Cabinet because she has not, having listened to the hard-faced accountants and bureaucrats in her own department and elsewhere, then reached her own essential human, social, clinical, medical and political judgments on these matters".

Sir Rhodes Boyson said: "Years ago I fought to retain the grammar schools because of their long traditions. We are now, on this side of the House, destroying the same traditions in the hospitals, which to my mind is a form of vandalism." Sir Rhodes and Sir John have both told Mrs Bottomley that they would vote against the Government if she went ahead with plans to close Edgware hospital's accident and emergency department.

Mrs Bottomley won support from some non-London MPs, however, and the tension was relieved when her husband, Peter, offered some sympathetic remarks.

Mrs Bottomley had earlier defended her original decision not to make a statement to the Commons. She told BBC Radio: "Every time you change hospitals in Birmingham or Newcastle or Manchester you do not make an oral statement. This was in a sense confirming the strategic direction which had been set out and debated at great length and very many times." But Mr Brooke said: "If a hospital has been around for 900 years, for it to receive its death warrant from a written answer does not seem to be to be wholly worthy of the traditions of our party."

The Health Secretary said in the Commons that the changes were "not primarily about finance", but about improving the quality of care. "They are about better specialist services... better teaching and research... equipping modern hospitals to respond more flexibly. And they are about providing more health care where Londoners most badly need it: in their communities, their doctors' surgeries, the streets where they live."

Bottomley criticised, page 6
Nicholas Wood, page 14
Leading article and Letters, page 15

CHRIS HARRIS



Virginia Bottomley off to Westminster to defend "improvements to hospital care"

Condemned man has last brief look at outside world

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN JACKSON

NICHOLAS INGRAM, the British-born murderer sentenced to die in the electric chair in Georgia tonight, caught a brief glimpse of the outside world yesterday when he attended an appeal for a stay of execution before being placed on "death watch".

Yesterday's court hearing was the first time in eight years that he had left the state Diagnostic and Classification Centre outside Jackson, where he has spent 12 years; and because every such appeal so far has been rejected, it will almost certainly be his last.

Looking haggard and pale, Ingram, 31, sat silently through an appeal hearing at Butts County Superior Court, just a few miles from the classification centre.

The condemned man, who was born in Cambridge and moved to America as a child, was taken from his death row cell yesterday to a containment area adjoining the execution chamber. What may be his final hours — he is due to die at 7pm tonight (midnight British time) — will be spent under permanent supervision by prison guards.

His personal possessions have been listed and removed and he has been issued with such items as toiletries, a comb (which he must ask to use), playing cards and an electric razor. The intention is to ensure that he does not attempt suicide before the sentence is carried out.

Ingram is being allowed to watch television through the window of his cell door and, in a departure from the newly imposed anti-smoking policy of Georgia prisons, he is allowed cigarettes but must request matches from his jailers. In the words of the official policy guidelines, his "feeding, showering and all other occurrencies" will be monitored by officials until he is escorted into the execution chamber.



Ingram at yesterday's Georgia court hearing

Overruling Ingram's wish to spend what time remains to him with his family, Judge Hal Craig ordered him to appear in nearby Jackson for another appeal hearing.

"How would you rather spend your last hours: talking with your family or sitting in a courtroom?" Clive Stafford Smith, Ingram's British lawyer, asked yesterday, adding that the petition to the superior court would probably be denied before being passed up to the US Supreme Court.

Handcuffed and shackled in a restraining belt to which his hands were manacled, Ingram spent his time in court jiggling uncomfortably and turning to look at 20 or so members of his family who attended the hearing. Wiry and thin, with carefully combed back blond hair, Ingram followed intently as his

Continued on page 2, col 4

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Law lords rule Howard's compensation cuts illegal

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL HOWARD, the Home Secretary, will have to introduce emergency legislation to cover compensation payments to victims of crime after suffering a humiliating defeat yesterday in the House of Lords.

The law lords decided by a three-to-two majority that he acted outside his powers in introducing a new tariff-based criminal injuries compensation scheme without reference to Parliament. They supported a Court of Appeal ruling, saying that Mr Howard's actions were "unlawful and an abuse of prerogative power".

Lord Lloyd of Berwick added: "It is the paramount duty of the courts to say so." Ministers must act within the powers granted by Parliament and for the purposes for which those powers were conferred.

Mr Howard will introduced a Bill in the early summer but the legislation will provoke widespread opposition in and outside Parliament and might prove difficult to push through the Commons and Lords.

Flat-rate payments for victims were introduced in April last year, meaning everybody suffering the same injury received the same amount, regardless of loss of earnings or medical costs. The new tariff-based system is thought to have saved the Government about £85 million compared with the old scheme, based on individual assessments.

Unions argued that this went against the will of Parliament, which earlier approved legislation designed to put a more generous scheme on a statutory footing.

As soon as the Home Office knew the judgment, it stopped criminal injuries compensation awards under the tariff system, with far-reaching consequences.

The Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority will now review 70,000 applications made during the past year and pay out an estimated additional £85 million for the 12 months to April 1995.

David Maclean, junior Home Office Minister, said last night: "We will want to give Parliament an early opportunity to put the tariff scheme on a statutory basis." He said he was absolutely confident that the measure would get through. "The law lords ... merely looked at the way it was implemented." He added that in a debate two months ago, every Conservative member backed the Government.

The judgment is a victory for the Trades Union Congress, which brought the case, and deals a further blow to the reputation of the Home Secretary who has suffered a number of reverses at the hands of the judiciary.

Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary, said Mr Howard "has acted with arrogant disregard both for the welfare of victims of violent crime and of the need to obtain proper Parliamentary approval for ministerial action".

Colin Ettinger, of Robin Thompson and Partners, solicitors for the unions, said: "This is a major victory for violent crime. The Prime Minister confirmed his commitment to supporting victims of crime. He can demonstrate this by supporting the withdrawal of the tariff scheme."

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Airbag rescue for spy plane

Engineers from GEC-Marconi are planning to fit a car-style airbag to Britain's troubled remote control spy plane, Phoenix, in a last-ditch bid to save the £230 million project.

The airbag is intended to protect the plane from damage as it lands on its back suspended from a parachute. Because of recurrent breakages, the spy system is six years behind schedule after a decade of development.....Page 23

Wakeham coal deal inquiry

An official inquiry has been launched into a multi-million-pound contract on coal privatisation advice awarded by Lord Wakeham when he was a government minister to N.M. Rothschilds, where he is now a director .....Page 2

Stagg sues police

Colin Stagg, the man acquitted last year of murdering Rachel Nickell on Wimbledon Common, is to sue the police over his arrest and prosecution. Mr Stagg said that he had been granted legal aid.....Page 3

Blair case for EU

Tony Blair, the Labour leader, supported the principle of a single currency at the appropriate time and set out the "patriotic case" for Britain to be at the heart of Europe.....Page 8

Ferry operators face multi-million safety redesign

BY JONATHAN PRYNN, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

CAR ferries face a fundamental redesign to cut the risk of capsize when water floods the lower decks, the Government announced yesterday.

Research has revealed that roll-on, roll-off ferries stand a far better chance of staying afloat once water has penetrated the bow-doors if they are equipped with transverse bulkheads, Brian Mawhinney, the Transport Secretary, told MPs. The Government had previously resisted enforcing the use of bulkheads — barriers across the width of the car deck — because insufficient evidence supported claims that they improved safety.

The Government will now press for compulsory introduction of the bulkheads at a meeting of the International Maritime Organisation next month. It hopes the issue will be settled in the summer.

Dr Mawhinney also revealed in a Commons statement that two-thirds of the ro-ro ferries serving British ports still fail to meet the requirement that they should be capable of staying upright for at least 30 minutes after their car decks are flooded. Of the 89 ships surveyed only 27 met the standard.

The latest research, carried out by the Government's Marine Safety Agency, was commissioned after the Estonia disaster last September in which more than 900 people died. The agency used advanced computer modelling in the most detailed study carried out on the safety of such car ferries, which carry more than 50 million passengers to and from Britain each year.

If the Government cannot get an international agreement it will press for a Europe-wide regulation and, failing that, transverse bulk-heads are likely to be made compulsory just for British ships.

Michael Meacher, the Shadow Transport Secretary, welcomed the announcement but said the Government's commitment to safety was called into question by its "instincts to deregulation and privatisation."

Only one ferry serving British ports has transverse bulkheads and their compulsory introduction will cost operators tens of millions of pounds.

A spokesman for P&O European Ferries said opinion remained divided on the benefits of the bulkheads. "Some studies have suggested that if a ship is penetrated from the side they could even impede stability," he said. The bulkheads would slow the loading of cross-Channel ferries, giving an advantage to the Channel Tunnel trains.

The announcement was welcomed by Peter Barney, a British survivor of the Estonia disaster.

Travel News, page 36

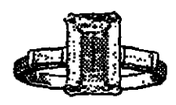
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Tory tempers immune to Bottomley's opium


Sir Rhodes: wounding

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

Virginia Bottomley has proved Tom Paine wrong. John Keane's new biography of the great 18th-century rationalist quotes his view of Parliament:

"*... as a legislature, [it has] no temper of its own. The Minister, whoever he at any time may be, touches it as with an opium wand and it sleeps obedience.*"

That is often true, but not always. Yesterday Mrs Bottomley's usually reliable opium wand failed.

Hoping quietly to dispatch a hospital or two, she had assumed too quickly that the Commons had no temper of its own. Worse, she had assumed that Peter Brooke (C, City of London & Westminster S) had no temper at all.

Now Mrs Bottomley was dragged to the Chamber to face both, and the House did not sleep obedience. It was Bottomley at bay. After a seeming eternity of backbench attack, the first real support came from her husband, Peter. She gave him a sad little smile.

Mrs Bottomley's sin had also been an achievement, of sorts: to enrage Peter Brooke. Fair-minded, careful, bumbling Mr Brooke, somewhat of the old school but sharper than he is painted, had objected to her sneaking out the closure of St Bartholomew's hospital in a written answer. On Tuesday he accused her of a lack of "moral courage". Such phrases roll easily from the tongue of a Tebbit, but to extract them from a gent like Brooke left MPs gasping.

A lashing from Tebbit merely stings. The wag of a Brooke forefinger wounds. Wounded, Mrs Bottomley had agreed to yesterday's statement.

She took her seat dressed, if not in the robes of a penitent, at least in the muted colours of a chastened woman: a pale Liberty scarf and quiet beige suit. There were cackles of "Resign!" To a notable silence from London Tory MPs around her she read, rather haltingly, through her statement.

From a modest performer such as Gillian Shephard, a quiet voice or occasional stammer raises no eyebrows. But in a minister who is brazen or nothing, those gulps, hesitations and cast-down eyes marked a parliamentary miracle.

One has felt towards Mrs Bottomley all kinds of emotions: bafflement, admiration, irritation, even disbelief. Yesterday and for the first time, sympathy was added to the list.

Labour howled and railed, but it was the Tory reaction that must have hurt. Sir Rhodes Boyson (Brent N) virtually called her a vandal. John Gorst (Hendon N) accused her of doing "the wrong thing, the wrong way, at the wrong time, and in the wrong place". Roger Sims (Chislehurst) charged her with insensitivity and Hugh Dykes (Harrow E) with a wrong judgment.

Those London Tories who did not actually attack asked awkward questions instead. Only Tories from outside London supported her, but mostly on the grounds that their own constituents had been cheated of hospitals by greedy Londoners. This was not her argument. The troops still loyal sounded more anti-London than they sounded pro-Bottomley.

There were two revealing moments. One was when, as Mr Brooke questioned her judgment, there were scattered cheers from Labour. Brooke visibly flinched. Later, as the Liberal Democrats' Simon Hughes droned piously on, there was a small rally of Tory growls in Mrs Bottomley's support. It faltered as Hughes sat down.

If Labour and the Liberal Democrats would go away for a couple of months, the Tory back benches look quite capable of bringing their Government down on their own.

Doctors warned of assault case risk

Doctors were warned yesterday that treating dying patients against their wishes could lead to a prosecution for assault.

Patients who have prepared a statement in advance, making it clear that they do not want medical treatment to prolong their lives, must have their wishes respected, the British Medical Association said. Such statements, called advance directives or living wills, can be made by those who fear having treatment imposed on them when they are mentally incapacitated and unable to refuse it.

Launching a code of practice on advance directives, Dr Fleur Fisher, head of science and ethics at the BMA, said: "It is important for patients to be able to refuse treatment. If treatment is then inflicted on them that is an assault."

BBC has Tory bias, say 22%

An Independent Television Commission survey found that 22 per cent of viewers believed that BBC1 was biased towards the Conservatives. Six per cent thought it favoured Labour. Seven per cent said ITV was biased towards Labour and 5 per cent towards the Tories.

The findings are in line with similar surveys since 1975. A spokeswoman said: "The public believes the BBC is biased towards the Tories. This belief often goes up during general elections."

Dean attacks lack of care

The Very Rev Michael Mayne, Dean of Westminster, said last night that it was a scandal that so many mentally ill were on the streets and not cared for by the State. He also called for housing to be higher on the political agenda. "Calves in wooden crates excite huge sympathy," he said. "Human beings in cardboard boxes don't." He accused the Government of "squeezing the poorest in society more than ever before".

Betting exposed

Passers-by will get an inside view of betting shops from today when a new law allows "see-through" frontages. Shops can also advertise bets in their windows and provide larger televisions and a wider choice of refreshments. A Coral spokesman said three redesigned shops would open today and a further 250 within three months.

Four share £11m

Four factory workers from the West Midlands have won £11 million in the National Lottery. The four, one from Tipton and three from the Wolverhampton area, each receive almost £3 million from last week's £22 million jackpot draw. All left their £180-a-week jobs at the factory in Tipton yesterday to enjoy their new found wealth.

Liner 'running in'

The *Oriana* will travel at little more than half maximum speed as the engines are "run in" during her first year of service. Soon after the Queen performs the official naming today the cruise liner will be prepared for her first cruise, during which she will not exceed 17 knots, compared with the maximum of 26 knots. Focus, pages 18-21

Cantona moves

Eric Cantona, the Manchester United player, had to move out of his rented home in Salford yesterday after a bid by the club to buy the house failed. The French striker has moved to an undisclosed address in Manchester with his wife, Isobelle, who is eight months pregnant, and Raphael, his eight-year-old son.

Former minister now firm's director

Wakeham's role in giving contract to be investigated

By Nigel Williamson


Wakeham: defended

THE National Audit Office is to investigate a multimillion-pound contract awarded by Lord Wakeham when he was a government minister to a company of which he is now a director.

The contract was awarded to N.M. Rothschilds for advice on the privatisation of British Coal in May 1991 when Lord Wakeham was Energy Secretary. The company is continuing to provide advice and is being paid at an hourly rate.

The value of the contract has not been disclosed on the ground of "commercial confidentiality". But at £200 an hour — an average fee for a merchant bank undertaking such work — Lord Wakeham's new employers will have earned about £7.4 million from the contract that has so far yielded 37,000 hours of work.

Lord Wakeham was appointed a non-executive director of Rothschilds in January at £50,000 a year, six months after he left the Cabinet. His appointment was criticised by opposition MPs over the potential conflict of interest, and equally stoutly defended by Conservative ministers and by Downing Street. On January 25, a prime ministerial aide said: "It is three years since Lord Wakeham was Secretary of State for Energy and many months since he was in the Government. In 1995 the fellow is entitled to take a job."

What was not widely known at the time was that the contract awarded by Lord Wakeham in 1991 was still in force.

Rothschilds was one of eight companies to tender for the work but the Government will not say if it submitted the lowest bid, merely that it offered "the best value for money".

Lord Wakeham yesterday pointed out that when he entered the House of Commons in 1974 he held 62 directorships which he had had to give up on becoming a minister.

Stephen Byers, the Labour MP for Wallsend who referred the matter to the NAO, said: "The public have a right to know why Rothschilds was awarded this contract. Yet the Government is refusing to answer many of the relevant questions. What have they got to hide?"

The NAO inquiry comes as Lord Nolan finalises his first report on standards in public life. The report, due to be published next month, is likely to propose much tighter restrictions on former government ministers moving to private sector jobs. His committee has been considering the imposition of a quarantine period on such moves.

Other members of Margaret Thatcher's Cabinet from 1988-89 hold private ssctor jobs.

Kenneth Baker. Director: Hanson, Torrey Investments, Videotron Holdings, Bell Cablemedia. Adviser: Cable & Wireless, IC. **Sir Norman Fowler.** Director: National Freight Corporation, Midland Independent Newspapers. **Lord Howe of Aberavon.** Director: Glaxo, BICC. **Tom King.** Director: Electra Investment Trust, London International Exhibition Centre. **Norman Lamont.** Director: NM Rothschild, First Philippine Investment Trust, Taiwan Investment Trust. **Lord Lawson of Blaby.** Director: Barclays Bank. Chairman: Central European Trust. **John MacGregor.** Deputy chairman: Hill Samuel Bank. Director: Slough Estates, Associated British Foods. **Lord Parkinson.** Director: Dartford River Crossing, Eurorail, Midland Expressway. Chairman: Usborne, Jarvis Harpenden. **Lord Walker of Worcester.** Director: British Gas, Dalgety, Tate and Lyle. Chairman: Cornhill Insurance, Thornton Management, Taemit Finance. **Lord Young of Graffham.** Chairman: Cable and Wireless.


MAXWELL
Torney: described during a trial at the Old Bailey as the INLA's chief of staff

Irish charge four after weapons cache seized

By Nicholas Watt
Ireland Correspondent


Gorman: arms charge

A MAN once described at the Old Bailey as the chief of staff of the outlawed Irish National Liberation Army appeared in court in Dublin yesterday with three other men after Irish police intercepted a car and seized a cache of weapons.

The seizure came amid security fears in Northern Ireland that the INLA was poised to renew its terrorist campaign after Easter. A security source described the arrests as a major breakthrough. The four suspected members of the INLA appeared before Dublin's anti-terrorist Special Criminal Court charged with the unlawful possession of weapons with intent to endanger life.

They included Hugh Torney, who was described at an Old Bailey terrorist trial in 1993 as the INLA chief of staff, and Anthony Gorman, who is wanted in Britain for questioning about the murder of a sergeant outside an army recruiting office in Derby in 1992. The four were arrested on Tuesday on the Dublin to Belfast road. They were charged with the unlawful possession of 26 rifles and pistols and 2,500 rounds of ammunition with intent to endanger life and were remanded in custody until April 25. The other men in court were Sean Braniff, 41, and Dessie McCleery, 41, both from Belfast.

Torney, 41, from Belfast, was named as chief of staff by Peter Daly, an MI5 informant, at the trial of two INLA terrorists in 1993. Gorman, 25, from Armagh, escaped extradition to Britain last year when he was freed by the Dublin District Court after the Irish state offered no evidence against him.

The INLA refused to support the IRA ceasefire last year and is opposed to the current peace process. The men were arrested when detectives intercepted a car and a van on the Dublin to Belfast road near Balbriggan, Dublin. The police, supported by an air corps helicopter, disorientated the group by throwing stun grenades at the two vehicles.

The weapons, which were put on show by police in Dublin yesterday, included two Kalashnikovs and two American sub-machineguns.

The security source said that the INLA, which has been responsible for notorious terrorist attacks, including the assassination of Airey Neave in 1979, wanted to restart its campaign after Easter. It is understood that there has been mounting pressure within the INLA to launch attacks against the security forces in Northern Ireland.

A loyalist leader said yesterday that the arrests would slow down the decommissioning of weapons held by Protestant paramilitaries. Gary McMichael, the leader of the Ulster Democratic Party, which has links to the Ulster Defence Association, said it would be "grossly unrealistic" to expect loyalists to engage in decommissioning their weapons when they might be needed for defence against republican attack.

Condemned man in court

Continued from page 1

lawyers pleaded for a stay of execution. His case was also due to be heard by the Georgia Board of Pardons and Paroles yesterday, when his lawyers and family, including his mother Ann Ingram, will make their most strenuous appeal for clemency so far. Decisions in both cases were due to be made known this morning.

This is God-fearing, but also man-fearing, country. Many of the small bungalows Ingram passed on his short drive to court through the Georgia countryside have elaborate security systems against intruders and most Georgia residents are convinced that the death penalty is the only just and proper treatment for murderers.

As he returned to death row, he would have passed, but may not have noticed, the sign outside a gospel church exhorting him to "preach the Gospel at all times: when necessary, use words".

Words are now all that stand between Ingram and the electric chair. In yesterday's appeal for a stay of execution Ingram was described as "the victim of a mean-spirited and vicious family environment" and as a troubled young man unfairly convicted of a crime that he does not remember because of alcoholic amnesia.

The petition says that, unknown to his defence lawyers, Ingram was taking the anti-psychotic drug Thorazine throughout his trial, which he spent in a "drug-induced haze". It adds: "Nick Ingram looked remorseless because he was a zombie drugged on Thorazine."

The Georgia board has granted clemency just five times in the 23 applications it has heard since the death penalty was introduced in 1976. Workers at the classification centre spent yesterday sprucing up the surrounding lawns in anticipation of the arrival of the world's press. Ingram's impending execution has caused barely a ripple in Georgia, but the intense media interest surrounding his fate in Britain has now become a factor in the case. "Ingram is a British citizen and the British, long-time allies of this country, desperately do not want a native son put to death in the electric chair," his plea claims.

The petition even cites a letter to the court from a private individual, warning that the execution could tarnish Georgia's image as host of the 1996 Olympics: "with the Olympics coming up next year [in Atlanta], does Georgia want to label itself as the executing state?"

Letters, page 15

MPs want laws to regulate security 'cowboys'

By Arthur Leathley

THE Government is look at ways of tightening controls on private security firms in preparation for tackling cowboy operators. Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, will be urged to make wide-ranging changes to the industry by drafting laws to control the fast-expanding but unregulated sector that employs some 170,000 people — more than the police service.

The cross-party Commons Home Affairs Select Committee will urge Mr Howard to set up a body to oversee the industry, which has been heavily criticised for hiring staff with criminal convictions. A report by the Association of Chief Police Officers estimated that 2,600 crimes were committed by security guards last year and one guard was found to be a murderer on the run from jail.

The committee has drafted a report calling for the industry to form its own regulatory body with a register of security firms. It would run on similar lines to the Gaming Board, which is funded by casinos, bingo halls and gaming machine companies, and which demands details of criminal convictions of directors, major shareholders and staff.

The committee's report, to be published next month, will call for all employees of security firms, including fitters of burglar alarms, to be licensed and to declare previous convictions. Although previous offences would not necessarily prevent a person being employed, failure to declare could lead to prosecution. The committee has yet to agree whether people such as security guards and nightclub doormen should have to declare previous convictions.

The MPs are expected to suggest that a regulatory body funded by the private security firms will eradicate poor standards. They acknowledge that there may be an initial loss of jobs as poor quality firms go out of business.

Home Office ministers have softened their original opposition to calls for regulation after pressure from senior police officers and the courts and have said they are open-minded on the issue of statutory regulation.

Labour MPs will see stricter controls as evidence that ministers are preparing to allow security firms to take on police functions, such as controlling noise pollution, supervising public events and making initial responses to burglar alarms. A Home Office report last year mooted the idea of private firms taking on such functions.

Also, there are fears within the Government that the setting up of new training regulations, staff vetting and checks on firms may be so complex that new rules cannot be introduced for at least two years, by which time the industry is likely to employ more than 250,000 people.

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Rachel Nickell's father welcomes civil trial

Colin Stagg wins legal aid to sue police over arrest

BY STEWART TENDLER
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

COLIN STAGG, the man acquitted last year of murdering Rachel Nickell on Wimbledon Common, is to sue the police over his arrest and prosecution.

Mr Stagg, who faces committal proceedings today with his girlfriend Diane Beddoes over affray and offensive weapons charges in January on the same common, announced in a statement yesterday that he had been granted legal aid for his action.

The decision to sue the police could mean that much of the evidence and the background of the police decision to arrest Mr Stagg, 31, of Roehampton, southwest London, will be heard by a jury in open court. The jury would make its decision on the basis of the "balance of probabilities" in the case rather than the stricter rule in criminal cases of "beyond all reasonable doubt".

Rachel's father Andrew Nickell said last night that the evidence against Mr Stagg would at last be heard and the "integrity, honesty and hard work" of the police could be defended. Rachel, 23, was stabbed to death in a frenzied sex attack in front of her two-year-old son on Wimbledon Common in July 1992. Mr Stagg was arrested in August 1993 after an eight-month operation involving an undercover policewoman who befriended him and tried to lure him into a confession.

Mr Stagg's trial at the Old Bailey last September was aborted after Mr Justice Ognall criticised the police for a "blatant attempt to incriminate a suspect by positive and deceptive conduct of the grossest kind". He rejected evidence gathered by the policewoman on the advice of a psychologist and the prosecution collapsed.

One legal expert said yesterday that the case might take several years to come to court. Scotland Yard could settle out



Stagg: cleared



Rachel: murdered

of court although senior officers are opposed such decisions. Last year it paid out £1.7 million in damages and the increase in litigation against the police is at the centre of a special conference in London today.

The largest single amount of damages paid by Scotland Yard was more than £200,000 to a north London man for the loss of an eye after an assault by police. Mr Stagg is likely to press for very considerable damages and amounts of more than £250,000 have been mentioned.

Yesterday he said in a statement: "When I was acquitted last year I promised to sue the Metropolitan Police for ruining my life and putting me in prison for 13 months for a crime I did not commit. Legal aid has now been granted for me to take proceedings for malicious prosecution and wrongful arrest against the police and nothing has happened to make me change my mind. I hope that the media will now respect my privacy after two and a half very difficult years."

His solicitor, Ian Ryan, said the proceedings would be started over the next few months. He would not put a figure on the amount of damages Mr Stagg would be seeking. Mr Ryan said he was "not overly concerned" about the police evidence turning the civil action into a trial of his client. He said: "The Crown offered no evidence because they had no case once the undercover evidence was ruled out. Even if the undercover evidence is heard, it does not amount to much. There is not a shred of evidence against him."

Last night Rachel's father Andrew Nickell said in a statement: "We are lucky enough to live in a free society with very well developed legal and social systems. Mr Stagg has been supported and helped by that society since he left school.

"Quite rightly when charged with murder he was granted legal aid and assembled a team of solicitors and barristers who eventually incurred costs of many hundreds of thousands of pounds.

"I am somewhat surprised that legal aid has been granted for what is a civil action, when I believe that Mr Stagg received in excess of £100,000 from newspapers for his story less than six months ago.

"However, because all the evidence against Mr Stagg was not heard at the Old Bailey ... I hope that all the evidence found by the police will now be heard in a civil court in front of a judge and jury. I sincerely hope that grounds of financial expediency are not used to settle out of court."

ALAN WELLER



Senior vet James Kirkwood tending the injured bird at London Zoo yesterday

Rare kite shot 'on purpose'

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY
COUNTRYSIDE CORRESPONDENT

A RARE red kite is being treated at London Zoo after being found with a shotgun wound to its wing.

The bird of prey is one of a small population of red kites reintroduced to England and Scotland from Sweden and Spain six years ago. It was found near Watlington, Oxfordshire, and is being treated at the zoo's Institute of Zoology. If it survives it will be returned to the wild.

Detective Inspector John Hayward, wildlife liaison officer for Thames Valley Police, said: "This is one of the worst conservation crimes I have dealt with in years. The loss of a single bird at this crucial time would have a very serious effect on the breeding programme."

Andy Jones, head of investigations at the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, said: "The red kite is distinctive and could not have been shot by accident."

Once abundant throughout Britain, the chestnut-coloured birds, which have a wing span of up to 5ft, had been hunted to extinction in England and Scotland by 1880. A few pairs survived in Wales, but the species was on the brink of extinction when the project to restore red kites to England and Scotland was launched in 1989.



The kite's damaged wing

In 1994 the reintroduced birds had their most successful breeding year, with the 20 English pairs producing 37 offspring and the eight Scottish pairs giving birth to a further 13. It is the first time any of the birds have been shot. Two others died after eating poisoned bait, one in Derbyshire two years ago and the other four years ago in the same area of Oxfordshire where the shooting occurred.

Coma woman kept alive for unborn baby

BY TIM JONES

A WOMAN given virtually no chance of recovering from head injuries sustained in a car crash is being kept alive so that her unborn baby can live.

Karen Battenbough, 24, has been in a coma for six weeks, but her baby, which is developing normally, is not due for a further ten weeks. Doctors at Morriston Hospital, Swansea, are giving Mrs Battenbough enough protein and liquid food to feed the baby, which her husband Michael can feel kicking inside her.

His wife suffered serious head and spine injuries when the family car crashed into the back of a parked bus on a motorway sliproad near their home in Swansea. Mr Battenbough and their daughter Sarah-Jane, 7, had only minor injuries.

He said that his wife was keen to have another child. "It would be her wish for the baby to live regardless of her own health."

Mr Battenbough, a care worker with mentally handicapped people, has spent eight hours a day at her bedside caressing her and playing her favourite music in the hope that she will regain consciousness. He said: "She is lying there, alive but not alive, but the baby is healthy and well. At the end of the day the baby will be the only thing. It will be all I have left of Karen except my memories."

He has been told by doctors that because of her injuries only part of her brain is working, but it is enough to keep her breathing. Mr Battenbough said: "I know she will never have a useful life again. I don't want her to live the life of a cabbage.

"I am breaking my heart. It is a nightmare. I keep thinking, hoping and praying she will wake up. I am hoping against hope that Karen will stay alive until the baby is born. I don't want to be faced with the awful dilemma of having to choose between them. I love my wife very much and she must come first."

Mrs Battenbough, who is making small movements of her hands and feet, was taken of a life-support machine two weeks ago and is breathing by herself.

Paul Baker, deputy director of operations at the hospital, said: "This lady is very seriously ill but her baby appears to be healthy and not affected by the road accident. As we get closer to the birth we will be having discussions with her husband about plans for the birth by Caesarean section."



Karen Battenbough

Soap actor cleared of beer glass attack

SID OWEN, who plays Ricky Butcher in the television soap *EastEnders*, sobbed with relief yesterday when he was cleared of attacking an estate agent with a beer glass at Epping Forest Country Club, Essex.

The actor, from Wanstead, east London, was found not guilty of two wounding charges by Snaresbrook Crown Court. Mark Falshaw, 23, of Loughton, Essex, said he needed hospital treatment for an inch-long wound.

Mr Owen, 23, said that Mr Falshaw had become aggressive, punching him once, hitting him in the nose and mouth. The man then tried to headbutt him and in self-defence he had raised the hand holding the glass.

Harley Street doctor's widow is cleared of swindling benefits

BY LUCY BERRINGTON

THE young widow of a Harley Street doctor walked free from court yesterday after the collapse of a case alleging that she swindled nearly £2,000 in welfare benefits.

Gida Ratner, whose husband Victor's patients included Princess Margaret and Elizabeth Taylor, was acquitted after the prosecution offered no evidence. But within minutes the former model was served with a statutory demand for £47,000 in back rents on behalf of her former Harley Street landlord.

The Department of Social Security alleged at Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court in central London that Mrs Ratner did not declare she was letting rooms in her former Harley Street home or that she was administrator of her late husband's estate, so was not entitled to £1,993 she received in income support.

The four charges were dropped after Ros Keating, the magistrate, said that Mrs Ratner might have been collecting the rent on behalf of her late husband's estate and so did not have to report it.

Victor Ratner died in August 1993, aged 61, of a drug overdose. His widow faces bankruptcy after being served with the demand for back rent by Terry Tooher, a private detective, on behalf of Howard de Walden Estates. Bankruptcy proceedings would be started against her if she did not pay within 21 days, Mr Tooher said.

Mrs Ratner, who was receiving legal aid, said she planned to relaunch her modelling career and to remarry soon. Originally from Sierra Leone, Mrs Ratner, who gives her age as 25 but is believed to be 21, has a son Joshua, 4, to whom she gave birth hours after marrying her husband in 1990. Last December she was acquitted of defrauding one of his patients, the daughter of Lord Hartwell, former proprietor of *The Daily Telegraph*, of nearly £17,000.



Ratner: to remarry



Decent exposure

SIGOURNEY WEAVER ON THE STAR SYSTEM IN THE

MAGAZINE

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Scientist made Ecstasy in error

BY MARIANNE DARCH

A SCIENTIST who manufactured £400,000 worth of Ecstasy walked free from court yesterday after persuading a jury that he had been trying to make a hay-fever cure.

James Edgar was arrested after police found a bath tub containing 1.3kg of the class A drug in his laboratory at Takeley, Essex, in November 1993. But Mr Edgar, 46, said that an inexplicable chemical reaction had turned his "revolutionary anti-pollutant" into Ecstasy.

He told the court that the chemical formula of his product, known as MDMPA, was very similar to that of Ecstasy, or MDMA, but that he had done everything possible to avoid getting the two mixed up. Obviously something had gone wrong, he said.

Jeremy Carter-Manning, QC, for the prosecution, said that it was accepted not only that Mr Edgar had known how to make Ecstasy but that he had indeed produced it. It was the Crown's case that, rather than making the drug as a fluke, Mr Edgar had done so "deliberately and knowingly". The jury at Snaresbrook Crown Court took six hours to acquit Mr Edgar. The drugs will remain in the possession of the police but Judge Haworth told Mr Edgar that he could sue for their return.

Mr Edgar, of Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire, has worked in the chemical industry for more than 20 years. He said he had received a lot of interest in his hayfever cure, called Airborne Ten, which was designed to combat environmental hazards including sewage smells and acid rain.

During his research he ran into a few "teething problems" because chemicals he had been using "split" when subjected to high temperatures needed in the process, he told the jury. To try to overcome this, he started experimenting with a chemical whose structure could be rendered into a more complex form, thereby producing Ecstasy.

The judge directed that seven further charges against Mr Edgar relating to the manufacture of steroids and trademark offences were to be left on the court file.



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Looting, strikes, family breakdown: anniversary figures paint stark portrait of a nation at war

Statistics explode cosy myth of life on the home front

By JOHN YOUNG

THE cosy image of wartime Britain as a crime-free society with people working shoulder to shoulder and sharing hardship takes a severe knock in a study that reveals a soaring divorce rate and a 42 per cent rise in the prison population.

The profound, far-reaching effects of the Second World War on the social and economic fabric are underlined in the study compiled by the Central Statistical Office and published today as a contribution to the 50th anniversary commemorations.

With the aid of hundreds of graphs and tables, *Fighting with Figures* not only provides a sombre picture of a nation at war but also suggests that the familiar picture of cheerful resilience and pulling together for a common cause is some way removed from reality.

Between 1939 and 1945 recorded crime rose by more than half and the prison population by 42 per cent. Breaking and entering offences rose alarmingly — from 11,714 in 1939 to 21,260 in 1945 — mainly as a result of bombed or deserted properties being looted.

Mobilisation and evacuation placed great pressure on families, leading to declining rates of marriage, divorces increasing almost fourfold and illegitimate births doubling to 9 per cent. The evacuation of more than four million mothers and children from urban to rural areas brought important changes in the scope of welfare services and social attitudes. Medical services were placed under enormous strain, and the housing stock deteriorated as a result of air raids and a lack of investment. Two in seven houses were destroyed or damaged, and one fifth of the nation's schools and hospitals were put out of action.

Dr Peter Howlett, of the London School of Economics, who compiled the text, said yesterday that strikes in industry were quite frequent, and that there was considerable resistance to the employment of women in factories and even more so in the shipyards. That contrasts with newsreel footage of smiling women being welcomed into the workplace, and may have been partly motivated by the men's awareness that, if women took tgheir jobs, they would be free for military service.

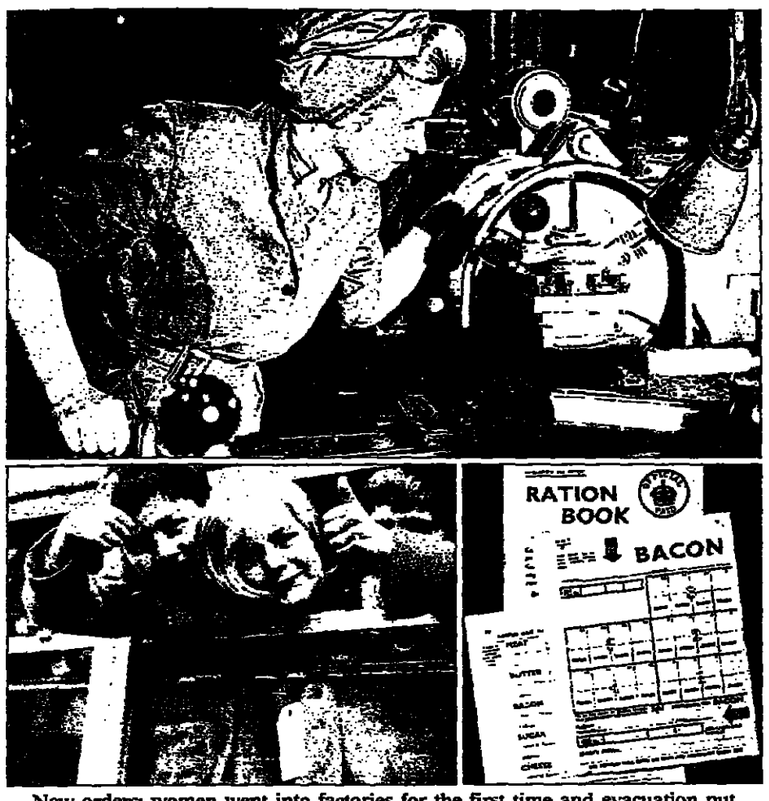
On the positive side, despite rationing and shortages, the health of the nation improved, partly as a result of immunisation campaigns against diseases such as measles, scarlet fever, whooping cough and diphtheria. But there were other important factors such as the introduction of school meals, subsidised milk for young children and expectant mothers and the distribution of vitamins, orange juice and cod liver oil.

Food rationing improved the diet of the poorest section of the population and ensured the best possible use of resources. Imports halved during the first three years of the war from more than 22 million tonnes to 11 million tonnes, due to lack of access to enemy-controlled markets, the need to make the best use of scarce shipping capacity and, most importantly, the pressure on Britain's currency reserves.

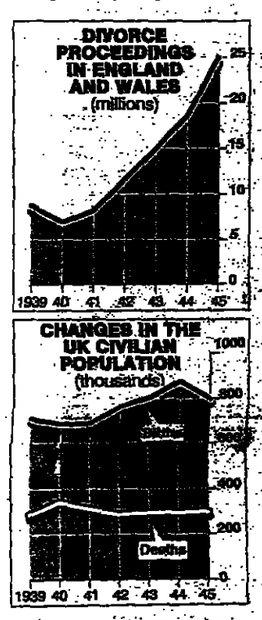
The result was a drastic change in farming patterns with, as it proved, long-term effects on the countryside. The encouragement of arable production at the expense of livestock resulted in rises of 81 per cent in home-grown wheat, 92 per cent in potatoes and 30 per cent in vegetables, while the number of pigs fell by 58 per cent, poultry by 45 per cent and sheep by 24 per cent. Yields were significantly increased by the greater use of machinery and fertilisers.

Central government expenditure rose from around £1,000 million a year at the beginning of the war to more than £6,000 million at the end, and the proportion spent on defence increased from 40 per cent to 90 per cent. Although tax revenue increased, the main cost of the war had to be met by borrowing, leaving a legacy of national debt.

Women at war, page 12



New orders: women went into factories for the first time and evacuation put great strain on families, but rationing helped to improve the diet of the poor



STATISTICS 1939-1945

- More than 40 million people were killed in the Second World War, more than 25 million in the former Soviet Union, 6,500,000 in Germany, six million in Poland and nearly 2,500,000 in Japan.
- British deaths as a direct result of the war were some 360,000, of whom more than 67,000 were civilians, almost all killed in air raids. That was a much lighter toll than suffered by any of the other main combatant nations except the United States, and compared with 620,000 British servicemen killed in the First World War.
- More than half the military fatalities were in the Army, a quarter in the Royal Air Force and one fifth in the Royal Navy. More than 30,000 merchant seamen lost their lives.
- Despite casualties, the population of Britain increased from 47.8 million to 49.2 million. The increase in illegitimate births, from 4.4 per cent to more than 9 nine per cent, is partly explained by wartime liaisons.
- Weekly earnings rose from £2 13s 3d (about £2.66p) in October 1938 to £4 16s 1d (about £4.40) in July 1945.
- Pay-as-you-earn income tax was introduced in 1943.
- National income increased by two thirds, and at its wartime peak gross domestic product was 25 per cent above its 1939 level. Economic growth was second only to that of the United States, which experienced a 65 per centincrease.
- Some 222,000 houses were destroyed and a further 3.5 million damaged by bombing raids.
- The working population increased from 19.5 million in 1938 to a wartime peak of 22.3 million, largely due to a huge influx of women.
- The strength of the armed forces rose from 1,270,000 at the outbreak of the war to more than three million by March 1941 and nearly five million in 1945.
- Subsidies to agriculture increased from £13 million to £162 million a year.
- Imports from the rest of Europe fell from £308 million in 1938 to £130 million in 1945, while imports from North America rose from £199 million to £527 million.
- More than 13,500 British-registered merchant ships were lost between 1939 and 1945.

New trust to protect Galapagos Islands

By NIGEL HAWKES

A TRUST to protect the Galapagos Islands, the world's living laboratory of evolution 600 miles off the Ecuador coast, was launched in London last night.

Dr David Bellamy, the botonist, gave warning that the unique character of the islands was "under terminal attack" from a growing human presence and the introduction of non-indigenous species of plant and wildlife. The Galapagos Conservation Trust aims to raise money and heighten awareness of the importance of the islands, which Charles Darwin visited in 1835 and used to support his theories of evolution.

Thanks to tourism, the islanders enjoy the highest standard of living of any province in Ecuador and the population has been growing at 8 per cent a year. Julian Fitter, chairman of the trust, said: "All these people can't find work in the tourist industry, so they turn to other things, like fishing. They also introduce alien animals and plants."

A colony of 80,000 goats is destroying the natural flora and sea cucumbers, sharks and lobsters are under threat from illegal fishing.

Leading article, page 15

Set-aside foils plan to plough for victory

RED tape has put paid to a ploughing match organised to celebrate VE-day.

Villagers in Haddenham, Buckinghamshire, had planned to hold the match as part of next month's celebrations to mark the 50th anniversary of the end of the Second World War. But under European Union rules, the field of set-aside land cannot be ploughed until July to protect ground-nesting birds.

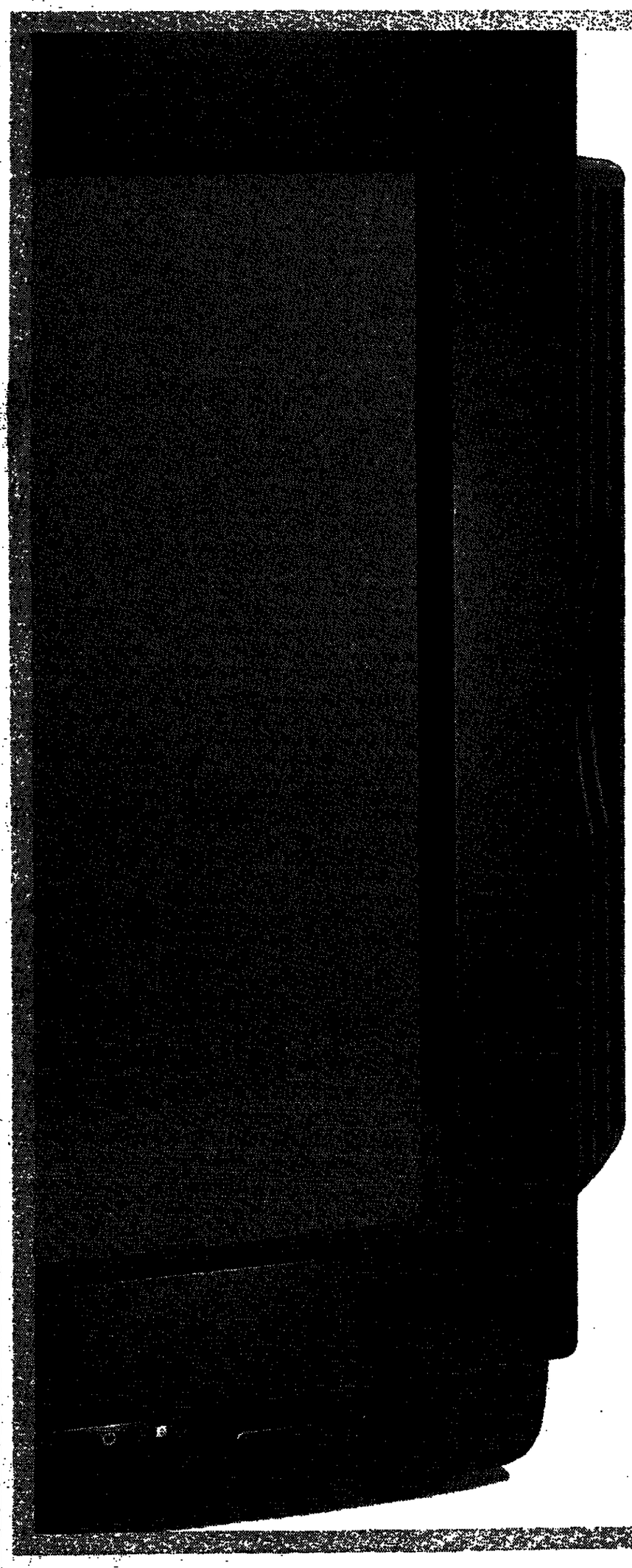
Michael Whitney, the organiser, said: "We are all deeply angry and disappointed. On that day we will be celebrating the end of the war in Europe and the homecoming of local people who fought against idiotic mind-boggling mentalities like this.

"They fought for freedom from such idiocies, not to have them imposed by the countries they had liberated."

Martin Aston, the farmer who offered his field for the contest, said he would lose out financially if he ignored the EU rules. "Letting this field out was my contribution to the VE-day celebrations but I have to comply with the rules because I cannot afford to lose the subsidy."

The rules are aimed at stopping farmers getting the subsidy and then ploughing early to get a crop.

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WDA

THE WELSH ADVANTAGE.

MPs outraged as minister resorts to written answer on controversial decision for the third time

Brooke attacks Bottomley for 'moral cowardice'

BY ANDREW PIERCE

HAD it not been the third time in six months that Virginia Bottomley had announced a controversial policy decision in a written answer she might have got away with it.

As it was, the Health Secretary's decision to announce the closure of the 900-year-old St Bartholomew's Hospital without coming to the dispatch box infuriated even loyal Tory MPs. Peter Brooke, Tory patrician and a man renowned for his chivalry, said such behaviour was an act of moral cowardice.

Mrs Bottomley should not have been surprised by the outcry. In December 1993 she was heavily criticised for confirming the bitterly opposed closure of the accident and emergency unit at Bart's by the same means.

In March 1993 she was censured by Betty Boothroyd, the Speaker, for announcing a 13 per cent rise in prescription rises, not by the usual written answer, but by an obscure procedural device. Mrs Bottomley, by tagging the announcement on the end of a written answer to an unrelated question, had not given MPs any warning that the increase was coming. Few MPs could recall a Cabinet minister being given such a blunt rebuke by the Speaker.

Earlier this year Mrs Bottomley announced prescription price rises in a written answer 24 hours after she had fielded questions at the dispatch box. Only last week she had two meetings with Tory MPs concerned about the hospital closures, including Mr Brooke, a former Cabinet minister, but declined to reveal the fate of Bart's or the means by which she would announce it.



Brooke: infuriated

Her aides were insisting yesterday that the written answer was justified because it was merely confirmation of strategic policy that had been outlined in the Government's response to the Tomlinson review of London health services in 1992.

But the 15-page written answer was in fact the final government response to the long consultation process on its reaction to Tomlinson, which spawned a vociferous all-party protest to try to save Bart's. More than 1,000 hospital beds will disappear as a result of the changes announced yesterday.

The closure of Edgware General Hospital, whose demise was not signalled in the Tomlinson review, was the biggest surprise in the announcement. Campaigners believed that, because of the opposition of four local Tory MPs, the Government would back down.

Greenwich District Hospital and the Brook General Hospital, which deal with a combined 35,000 casualties a year, were also confirmed for total closure. They will be absorbed into the Queen Elizabeth Military Hospital in Woolwich, southeast London.

The announcement also confirmed a death sentence on Guy's Hospital, which now faces a rapid rundown of its specialist services in advance of the closure of its casualty department in 1999.

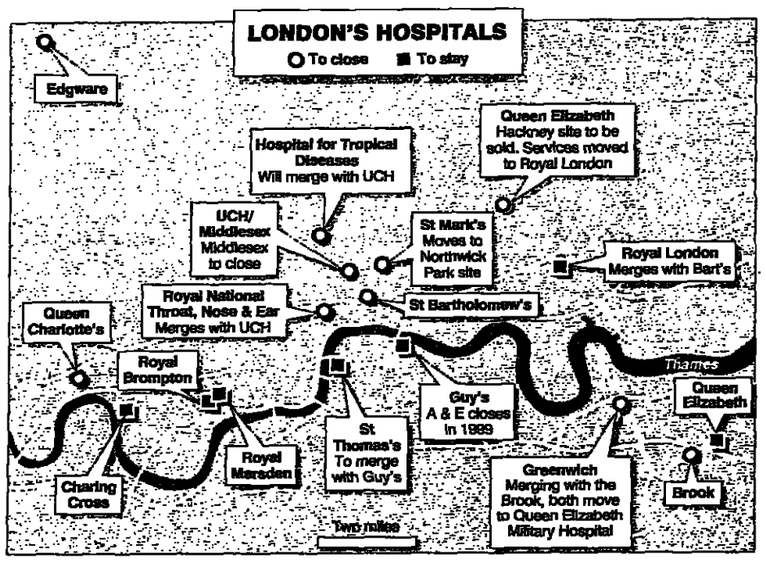
The other changes to London's health services that have been endorsed by Mrs Bottomley include the closure of Queen Elizabeth Hospital for Children, Bethnal Green; St Thomas's to merge with Guy's; St Bartholomew's to be absorbed into the Royal London Hospital in Whitechapel; closure of the Royal National Throat Nose and Ear Hospital; closure of the Hospital for Tropical Diseases; the University College Hospital site in Middlesex to close; and the halting of kidney transplants at Dulwich.

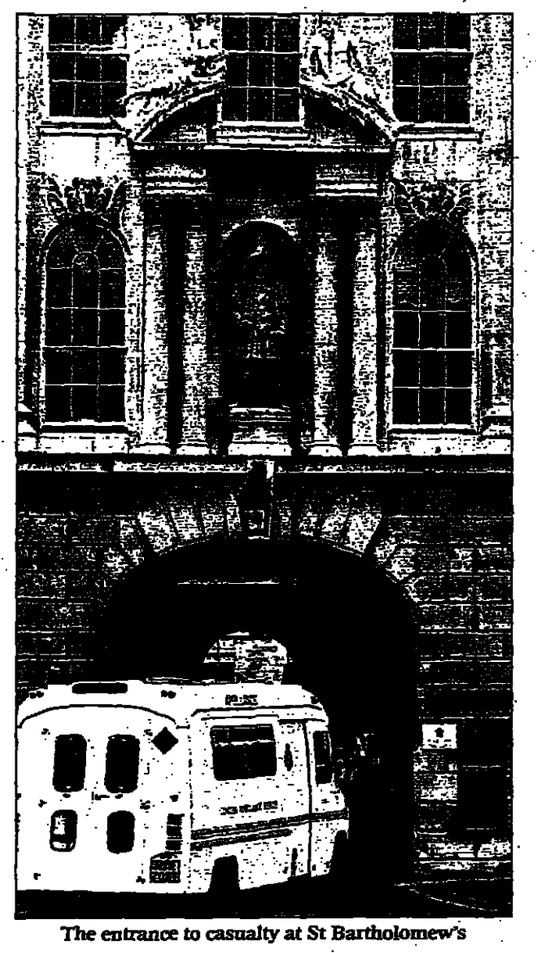
Since the Tories came to power in 1979 an estimated 75 hospitals have been closed and the number of beds in the capital has fallen from 26,000 to 16,000.

☐ A new "code of openness" in the NHS was published yesterday to counter accusations that trusts and health authorities are too secretive.

Under the new code, which comes into effect on June 1, trusts and health authorities should make available information about services, targets and standards, costs and effectiveness, policies, complaints systems and how people can access their health records.

Closures announced, page 1
Nicholas Wood, page 14
Leading article, page 15





The entrance to casualty at St Bartholomew's

Closure plans under attack from all sides of Commons

BY JAMES LANDALE, POLITICAL REPORTER

THE Health Secretary came under fierce attack from MPs on all sides of the Commons yesterday over her plans to close hospitals in London.

Virginia Bottomley was criticised by her own backbenchers for her failure to announce before the House the decision to close St Bartholomew's Hospital and to transfer most patients at Guy's to St Thomas's. In response to an emergency question from the former Cabinet Minister Peter Brooke, who on Tuesday accused her of "moral cowardice" for refusing to face MPs, Mrs Bottomley said the need for change in London was "widely recognised as long overdue".

Mrs Bottomley said her plans had widespread support within the clinical and academic worlds. She said they would strengthen specialist services by concentrating them in centres of excellence, preserve medical teaching and research in London, provide more acute services closer to major centres of population and release money for family doctors in other parts of the capital.

"I hear and understand the concerns which have been expressed," she said. "Let me make it absolutely clear: no accident and emergency facility will close until ministers are satisfied that alternative facilities are not only available but also capable of providing an improved service."

The changes, she said, would be backed by £400 million of capital investment on top of £210 million being spent on primary care. But when she said the changes were about "improving the quality of care" and not "primarily about finance", MPs from both sides jeered.

"They are about better specialist services," she said. "Better teaching and research ... equipping modern hospitals to respond more flexibly to the pressures they face. They are about providing more healthcare where Londoners most badly need it — in their communities, their doctors' surgeries, the streets where they live."

Mr Brooke said Mrs Bottomley enjoyed considerable support on the Tory back benches but insisted: "Bart's is a national and international asset and in the post-industrial society such assets are of the highest importance in communicating British medical excellence to the world." What plans, he asked, were there to protect this asset?

Mrs Bottomley replied that Bart's "ethos and culture" would be preserved and enhanced by the changes. She received little support from her own back benches. However her husband, Peter (Eltham), backed her, as did Tim Yeo (Suffolk South).

Sir John Gorst (C, Hendon North), who with Sir Rhodes Boyson (C, Brent North) has threatened not to vote with the Government in future on London health matters, told Mrs Bottomley: "You are doing the wrong thing in the wrong way at the wrong time and in the wrong place."

Sir Rhodes said: "Years ago I fought to retain the grammar schools because of their long traditions. We are now, on this side of the House, destroying the same traditions in the hospitals, which to my mind is a form of vandalism."

Roger Sims (C, Chislehurst), congratulated the way Mrs Bottomley had "grasped the nettle" of London's healthcare reform. "But I would plead with you in doing so to show rather more sensitivity than you have in the past couple of days," he said.

The former Prime Minister, Sir Edward Heath, gave warning about the transfer of neurosurgery from Brook hospital to King's. "Every specialist I have spoken to, and they've been on the telephone to me today, is extremely worried about this, because of the extra distance involved with these usually acute cases," he said.

Margaret Beckett, Shadow Health Secretary, said she hoped Mrs Bottomley recognised that her case was as dubious as the reasons she put forward for not attending the House on Tuesday. She accused her of ignoring the anger of local people.

"Your obstinate refusal to call a halt to closures, and have a fresh assessment of health needs in London, is leading directly to the closure of renowned centres of excellence such as the London Chest Hospital, Bart's and even Guy's itself." She added: "This must be clinical and financial vandalism."

Hugh Dykes, (C, Harrow East), said plans to close the accident and emergency department at Edgware General Hospital were outrageous. "You have not succeeded as a senior member of the Cabinet because you have not, having listened to the hard-faced accountants and the bureaucrats in your own department and elsewhere, then reached your own essential, human, social, clinical, medical and indeed political judgments on these matters," he said.

Matthew Parris, page 2

Tories topple walls that resisted wrath of Henry VIII

BY ANDREW PIERCE

ST BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL

THE doomed St Bartholomew's Hospital, which was founded for the sick and poor of London nearly 900 years ago, had developed a formidable instinct for survival. Virginia Bottomley has succeeded where Henry VIII, the Great Fire of London, the Blitz and Margaret Thatcher all failed.

Henry, in an unusual display of sensitivity to the views of his subjects, performed a rare U-turn and saved Bart's while he was on his deathbed. It had taken eight years of powerful persuasion from, among others, the Lord Mayor of London to persuade the king to relent. Unlike Mrs Bottomley, he was not under pressure from hostile newspaper editorials, candlelit marches, prayers in cathedrals and a backlash from the City.

The hospital was founded in 1123 by Rahere, an Augustinian monk and courtier of Henry I, who had contracted malaria on a pilgrimage to Rome and vowed to set up a hospital for the needy if he recovered. In a dream, St Bartholomew instructed him to build a church alongside his hospital on the "smooth field" of London.

Within a few years herbal preparations, nutritious food, and a good rest — the only weapons at that time against disease — were being dispensed in a communal hall on the Smithfield site where the hospital, a parish in its own right, stands today.

The first threat to its survival came in 1539 when Henry's dissolution of the monasteries forced the closure of the priory of St Bartholomew's. But Henry spared the hospital and signed a Royal Charter securing its future. The charter remained in force until 1948 and the creation of the National Health Service.

It was not only the avaricious desires of Henry VIII that the hospital had to contend with. As doctors fled London during the Plague of 1665 a solitary matron and apothecary kept the hospital open. The next year the Great Fire of London licked at the hospital doors but the central buildings were not damaged.

By the early 1700s Bart's had become a national institution and the first phase of the construction of the present day buildings was completed. A medical school was established in 1822 and a school of nursing added 50 years later.

It was not until the late 1970s that the first question mark hung over the hospital's future. In 1977 a Department of Health report concluded that the running costs outweighed the benefit to patients. But the report went no further. One senior health official commented at the time: "There is nothing we can do about Bart's. It's sacrosanct."

By the early 1980s the Thatcher government was shifting resources out of central London. Beds were disappearing. But Mrs Thatcher, who famously declared the health service was safe in her hands, was not prepared to lay a finger on such a popular institution.

In 1991 Sir Bernard Tomlinson, a semi-retired academic and doctor, published an official study on the capital's health services — the 19th in a 100 years. The thrust of the recommendations were similar to the ones in 1892: too many hospitals competing for too few patients.

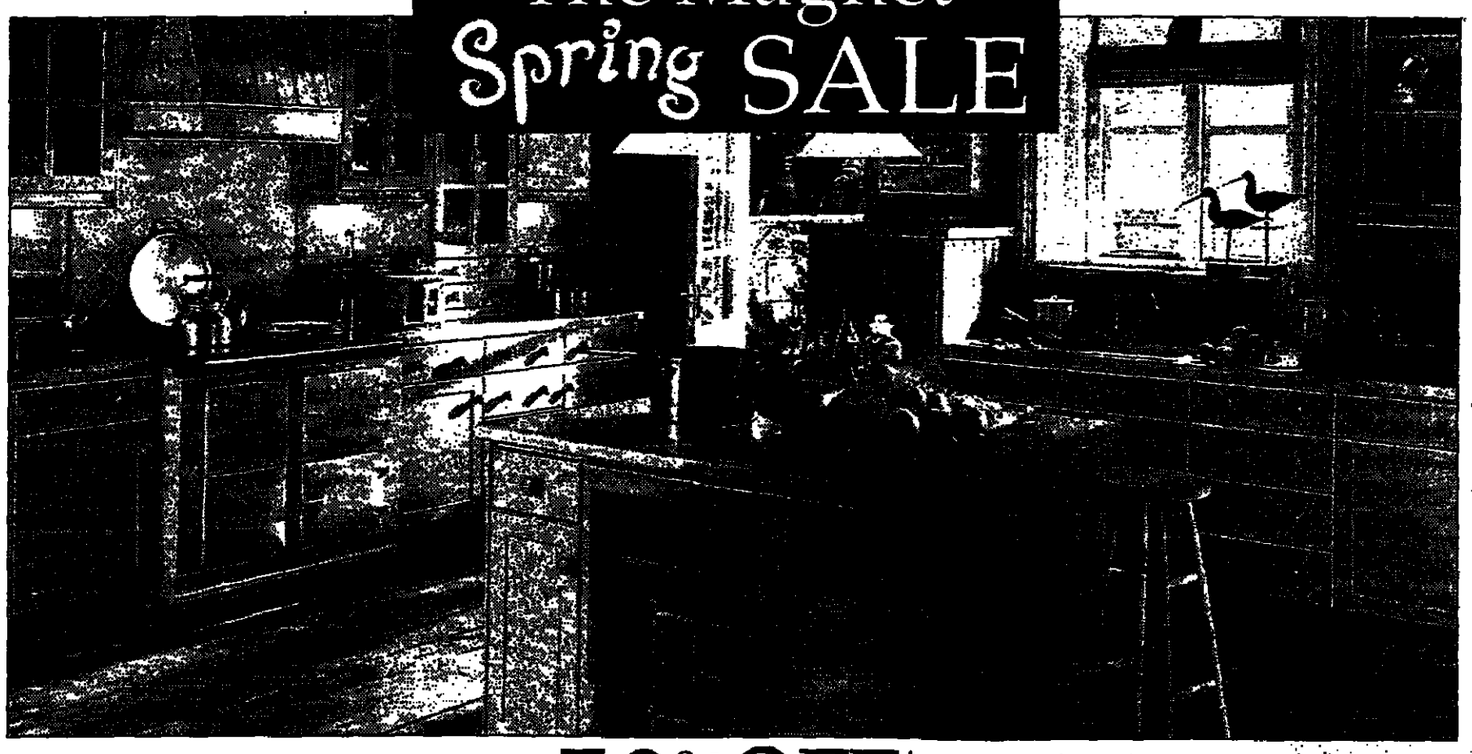
But by February 1993, Bart's seemed to have won a reprieve. A petition with 500,000 signatures had gone to Downing Street, business people and the Corporation of London had opened a second line of attack and the Lord Mayor of London had called for a stay of execution. They had not reckoned on Mrs Bottomley. The Health Secretary insisted that the hospital had to go. The Department of Health was not "an arm of the Heritage Department", she said.



Bart's, founded by Rahere, an Augustinian monk, in 1123, first came under threat from Henry VIII

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MoD report recommends fewer chiefs, performance pay and incentives to sign up for eight years

Top ranks under fire in shake-up of armed forces

BY MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

RADICAL recommendations to axe the most senior military ranks and slash allowances in the armed forces were unveiled yesterday by the Ministry of Defence.

Among the 150 recommendations of a critical study commissioned by the Defence Secretary Malcolm Rifkind are proposals that the "five-star" ranks of Field Marshal, Admiral of the Fleet and Marshal of the RAF should disappear.

The study also suggests a more flexible pay structure — related to performance and experience, not just rank — and that personnel be encouraged to sign up for between eight and 12 years, with substantial lump-sum bonuses at the ages of 30, 40 and 55.

Another recommendation is that special allowances, such as those given for flying, diving and parachuting, should be merged into the new pay structure and that a new deployment allowance should be paid to Army and RAF personnel who are frequently sent abroad for periods that add up to more than a year. The Navy already awards a bonus for longer service at sea.

The report, published as a Green Paper yesterday, is by Michael Bett, a former deputy chairman of BT. Mr Bett, who began his inquiry into the career and manpower structures and conditions of service in the armed forces a year ago, admitted that performance-related pay had proved "an emotive subject, fraught with misunderstanding".

If implemented, it could mean, for example, that a colonel in a responsible post could be paid more than a brigadier. However, Mr Bett concluded: "We do believe that account should be taken of an individual's performance, based on the judgment of his superior officers. Performance should play an increasing part in pay progress."

Under the proposals, pay ranges would be developed for all three services, based on job evaluation "scores". These pay ranges would overlap between ranks, "recognising that the most effective person in one rank could be worth a higher salary than the least experienced person in a rank above".

Individuals would still receive a "reasonable" pay increase on promotion but not "the step-change" usually involved in current arrangements. Changes to pay and rank structures are the most controversial recommendations in the Bett report, which will now be sent to every regiment, air base and naval base for a consultation period that could last for a year.

Ministry of Defence officials admitted that some of the proposals were "greener" than others in the Green Paper and would require considerable thought. While there appears to be general agreement that some of the antiquated ranks could go, it is recognised as a sensitive area because in the services rank means status.

However, the Bett report says that with all three services reduced in size since the end of the Cold War, there is a need to cut back the number of ranks, especially at the more senior levels, if the forces are to be seen to be cost-effective. "The existence of so many ranks is more likely than not to result in the creation of unnecessary jobs in order to sustain the current rank structure," the report says.

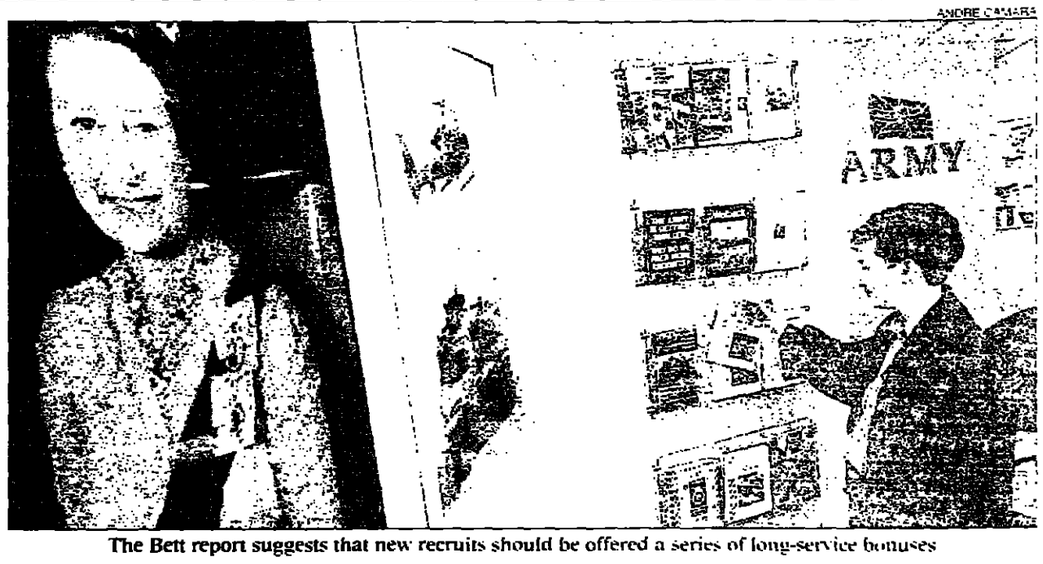
Under the proposals, the Chief of the Defence Staff would no longer be a five-star appointment meriting the rank of field marshal if it was an Army appointment. This would mean he would be a four-star general, the same rank as the Chief of the General Staff, although on a higher salary.

In the other officer amalgamations, lieutenant-generals would merge with major-generals and brigadiers with colonels, although there is no specific recommendation on what the amalgamated rank should be. In other ranks Warrant Officer 1 and Warrant Officer 2 would be merged, staff sergeant with sergeant, and lance-corporal with corporal.

Boarding school allowances would still be paid but with tours abroad to be extended to four years where possible to allow families more stability, there would be less call for servicemen to send their children to fee-paying schools.

PROPOSED OFFICER STRUCTURES

Royal Navy	Army	RAF	Bett structure
Admiral of the Fleet	Field Marshal	Marshal of the RAF	1Rank
Admiral	General	Air Chief Marshal	
Vice-Admiral	Lieutenant General	Air Marshal	1Rank
Rear-Admiral	Major General	Air Vice-Marshal	
Commodore	Brigadier	Air Commodore	1Rank
Captain	Colonel	Group Captain	
Commander	Lieutenant Colonel	Wing Commander	No change
Lieutenant Commander	Major	Squadron Leader	No change
Lieutenant	Captain	Flight Lieutenant	No change
Sub-Lieutenant/ Midshipman	Lieutenant/ Second Lieutenant	Flying Officer/ Pilot Officer/ Acting Pilot Officer	1Rank



ANDRE CAMARA

The Bett report suggests that new recruits should be offered a series of long-service bonuses

Dental charges escape planned increase of 25%

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

THE Government lifted the threat of increased dental charges yesterday, abandoning proposals for a 25 per cent increase. Patients already pay 80 per cent of treatment costs.

At the same time, plans were announced to target NHS dental care on the neediest patients: dentists working in deprived areas are to receive higher payments for treating children.

Patients who face increasing difficulty in finding a dentist who will accept them on the NHS are offered nothing. Official figures show 829,000 patients have been deregistered in the past two years because of dentists' dissatisfaction with the remuneration system.

Announcing the changes in a written answer yesterday, Gerald Malone, the Health Minister, said they would reinforce the priority of the dental health of children and end uncertainty.

"By targeting the needy more effectively we will ensure that the taxpayer gets better value for the £1 billion currently spent annually on NHS dentistry," he said.

The flat-rate annual capitation fee paid to dentists for looking after children's teeth will be varied so that dentists in inner-city areas, where fillings are more common, receive more than dentists in the better-off suburbs.

Mr Malone said that more than £20 million paid to dentists last year in flat-rate fees for adults they had not seen for two years or more was evidence the scheme was not providing value for money. In future, dentists will be required to register patients every year or 18 months in order to claim the payments.

The announcement marks the culmination of a three-year dispute between the Government and the dental profession after dentists' fees were cut by 7 per cent.

The British Dental Association welcomed the proposals. "Peace has broken out," a spokesman said.

Margaret Beckett, the Shadow Health Secretary, said the announcement would not end the crisis in NHS dentistry. "The public remain the losers as NHS dentistry disappears before our eyes."

According to the latest British Social Attitudes survey, almost 350,000 patients have asked their local health authority for help in finding an NHS dentist since July 1992.

Notice to Members

Results of Voting on Transfer Resolutions

The following are the detailed results of the voting on the Investing Members' Special Resolution and the Borrowing Members' Resolution at the Special General Meeting of the Society held on 31 March 1995 at the London Arena, as reported by the Scrutineers, KPMG.

Investing Members' Special Resolution approving transfer of the Society's business to the Lloyds Bank Group:

1. Total number of votes cast ... 968,117
2. Against the Special Resolution ... 34,466
3. In favour of the Special Resolution ... 625,758
4. Abstentions ... 22
5. Votes spoilt ... 4,872

6. 94.8% of the unspoilt votes cast were cast in favour of the Special Resolution.

7. Total number of members qualified to vote on the Special Resolution ... 797,552

8. 78.4% of the members qualified to vote on the Special Resolution voted in favour.

Borrowing Members' Resolution approving transfer of the Society's business to the Lloyds Bank Group:

1. Total number of votes cast ... 178,382
2. Against the Borrowing Members' Resolution ... 45,594
3. In favour of the Borrowing Members' Resolution ... 132,363
4. Abstentions ... 2
5. Votes spoilt ... 2,918

6. 74.4% of the unspoilt votes cast were cast in favour of the Borrowing Members' Resolution.

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Speech reveals support for principle of a single currency

Blair puts 'patriotic' case for central role in Europe

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TONY BLAIR backed the principle of a single currency yesterday and set out the "patriotic case" for Britain to be at the heart of Europe.

In a strongly pro-European speech, the Labour leader said that if Britain was not centre stage in Europe it would lose its prominent role in the world. A single currency was "highly likely at some point" and was not inconsistent with the nation state. Although he said that Labour would leave its options open he made clear that it would join a single currency provided that it was in Britain's economic interest.

Trying to highlight a distinct difference between Labour and the Tories, Mr Blair insisted that politicians should not bow to opinion polls that suggested that the electorate was becoming increasingly Euro-sceptic. "I am adamant that such an approach would be folly and we will not pander to it," he said.

Mr Blair, speaking to the Royal Institute of International Affairs in London, accused the Tories of moving steadily in favour of withdrawing from Europe. "Cabinet ministers who defend Europe are excoriated — those that damn it are praised. There is no doubt in the Tory party which side is gaining ground."

But the more that anti-Europeanism was flattered, the stronger it became. "It should be the responsibility of all politicians with the interests of the country at heart to speak out, even if it runs against the lines of popular feeling." The indecision within the Tory party over Europe, fuelled by the whipless MPs, could cause "incalculable" damage as the Government dithered over its approach.

Mr Blair claimed that the relationship with America was far more valuable if Britain had a central role in Europe. "All routes to influence travel at some point through Europe." In addition Britain's ability to attract foreign investment, and its bargaining clout in trade negotiations, was strongly linked to Europe. "The Japanese, the Americans and the Koreans invest here because we are part of the European Union. If they see us slipping to a second tier, they will put their investment elsewhere," he said. "Forfeit a central role in Europe and we forfeit our opportunity to play a substantial role in the world. In crude terms . . . that is the patriotic case for Britain in Europe."

For too long British ministers had been sent to Brussels to find out what the European Union was doing and telling it to stop, then when that failed opting out. "That is not a serious basis for a foreign policy," he said

He also criticised the Prime Minister for "boxing Britain in" on the inter-governmental conference on Europe next year by insisting that Britain would veto any changes. "Can he really mean it? Is that really a serious position to take at the very beginning?"

Labour, however, would be prepared to agree to the necessary changes to make the European Union more accountable and more efficient while protecting Britain's national veto. Mr Blair said that qualified majority voting would need to be reformed, as it was bad for Britain and bad for Europe. Labour would maintain the veto in areas such as security and immigration and "areas where it is essential in the national interests to do so".



Tony Blair: "All routes to influence go through Europe"

It was vital, he said, that the Tories had a clear policy on economic and monetary union (EMU). "There is only one immediate question on EMU: is it inconsistent with the nation state? If it is, then we must reject it, even if it would be economically prudent to join. If it is not, as I believe, then we are free to participate fully in the formulation of its institutions and structures, while deciding finally on whether to join on the basis of our national economic interest. We have defined those interests as being satisfied if there is real economic convergence which is sustainable."

Probation term planned for council tenants

BY EDWARD GORMAN

THE Government is proposing to put council tenants on probation in an effort to curb anti-social behaviour on housing estates.

David Curry, the Housing Minister, said yesterday that a secure tenancy would have to be earned over a one-year trial period. During that time, anyone whose behaviour was found to be unacceptable would lose their home.

"It should help to reassure existing tenants that authorities have the means at their disposal to take rapid action to remove any new tenants behaving in this way," he said.

The proposals for the scheme, which would require primary legislation, are in a Green Paper published yesterday. Local authorities, many of which have been pressing for more powers to deal with bad tenants, would have discretion over whether to adopt the system.

Among the anti-social activities cited by Mr Curry were vandalism, noise, verbal abuse, racial harassment, drug taking and repairing cars in the street. Well-behaved tenants would automatically have their tenancies made permanent at the end of the probation period.

The Government is also examining ways of speeding up repossession cases, which are often delayed by the backlog of cases going through the courts. In future the court may be required only to check that a council has properly issued an eviction notice before approving a repossession, rather than having to examine the reasons behind the decision in detail.

Mr Curry said that the Green Paper would help to regenerate notorious estates where anti-social behaviour by a minority of bad tenants tended to drive the good ones away. The probation system would "load the dice more in favour of decent people".

He rejected suggestions that the Government was helping to create a new underclass of people with nowhere to live. He emphasised that the pressure for the new powers was coming from the local authorities, such as Labour-controlled Manchester and Coventry, and that they would be used only as a last resort.

Carolan Davidge, of the housing charity Shelter, said that the new powers could be abused. "Some vulnerable people could end up being victims of this — it's a very big worry for us."

David Lunts, head of housing at Manchester City Council, said that the Government had done everything the council had asked of it. He predicted that evictions during a probationary tenancy would be used very sparingly, but would have a very effective deterrent effect on irresponsible tenants.

Criminal injuries compensation

Howard's decision 'an abuse of power'

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE Home Secretary acted unlawfully in introducing a less generous scheme of compensation for victims of crime, the law lords ruled yesterday.

Lord Browne-Wilkinson, upholding an earlier Appeal Court judgment, said the Michael Howard's decision to introduce the flat-rate tariff scheme 12 months ago was an abuse of prerogative power. By a majority of 3-2, the law lords supported arguments put forward by the Trades Union Congress and ten unions and staff associations representing firefighters, teachers, nurses, prison officers and others who face the risk of violence at work.

The unions were worried that the new scheme did not take into account loss of earnings of victims and would leave some of their members with much less than they would have gained under the old compensation system.

The case centred on the introduction of the new tariff based system. The unions argued that it went against the will of Parliament, which had earlier voted to put the more generous scheme on a statutory basis. The 1988 Criminal Justice Act left a discretion as to the date on which the statutory scheme, based on system operating since 1964, came into force.

Mr Howard provoked protests from the Labour Party, former law lords and solicitors by introducing the new system without going to Parliament. Yesterday Lord Browne-Wilkinson said that Mr Howard's decision to introduce the new system, with payments ranging from £1,000 for a chipped tooth to £250,000 for the seriously crippled, was "unlawful and an abuse of the prerogative power".

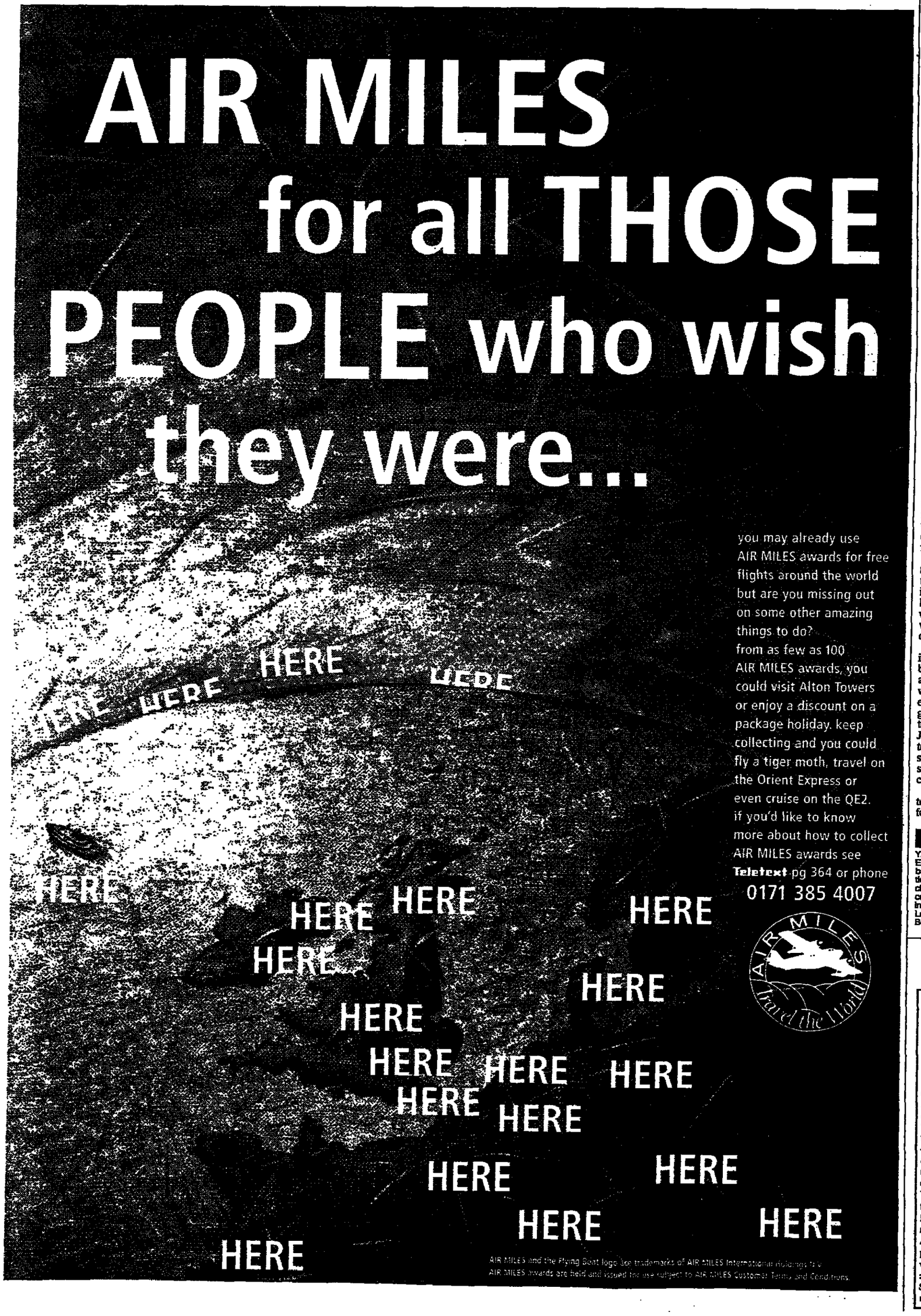
He said it did not follow that because the Home Secretary was not under any duty to bring the statutory scheme into effect, he had an absolute and unfettered discretion whether or not to do so. "So to hold would lead to the conclusion that both Houses of Parliament had passed the Bill through all its stages and the Act received Royal Assent merely to confer an enabling power on the executive to decide at will whether or not to make the parliamentary provisions a part of the law."

The new scheme was estimated to save the government £250 million in compensation awards by the beginning of the next century. When the original Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme was introduced 31 years ago, there were 2,452 claims and compensation totalling £400,000. By 1994, compensation had risen to £170 million and the government predicted that by the year 2,001 payments would reach £550 million.

Law Report, page 37

IN PARLIAMENT

YESTERDAY in the Commons: the Easter adjournment debate; backbench debates on compensation arising from compulsory purchase orders and privatisation costs; questions to trade and industry ministers; a statement on London Hospitals by Virginia Bottomley, the Health Secretary. In the Lords: debate on the recruitment and training of probation officers and arts funding.
TODAY in the Lords: debates on the Mental Health (Patients in the Community) Bill and the Child Support and Income Support (Amendment) Regulations. The House then rises for Easter.



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America urged to back new attack on global warming

FROM NICK NUTTALL
ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT
IN BERLIN

BRITAIN and Germany pressed America yesterday to support deeper cuts in the emission of "greenhouse" gases or risk an increasingly unstable world plagued by costly natural disasters.

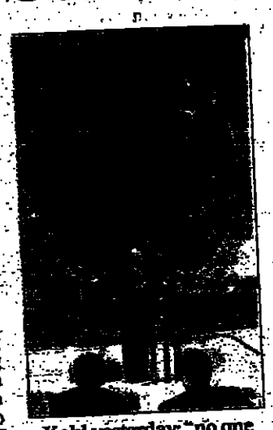
The Clinton Administration has emerged as one of the key stumbling blocks at the Berlin climate summit, where more than 100 nations are meeting to discuss ways of preventing global warming. The main aim of the meeting is to hammer out an agreement to cut power station, industrial and transport-related emissions beyond 2000.

John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, said yesterday that the latest British research from the Hadley meteorological centre "shows very clearly that the timescale of global warming is within the working lifetime of our children. We cannot put short-term political needs ahead of that. We have to find a way through."

President Clinton and Vice-President Al Gore have talked about the need for reductions, but the American delegation in Berlin has studiously avoided any such commitment.

Environmentalists say that the right wing in Congress has been more impressed by the powerful oil lobby than by the warnings of climate scientists.

America is also pegging any potential deal to developing countries agreeing to share the burden of cutting emissions. Mr Gummer, who is proposing a cut of 5 to 10 per cent in greenhouse gases among nations of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development by 2010, said he was sympathetic to the American stance. "We need to get everyone on board . . . but we have also made clear to the Americans that we do expect them to play an active part, and the kind of figures we are talking about are the only kind of figures that will start meeting our obligations."



Kohl yesterday: "no one must shirk the task"

In a thinly veiled attack on the US position, Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, told delegates: "Preserving creation and securing sustainable development is a task which no one must shirk."

Mr Gummer said the European Union had seized the initiative in Berlin and his message to fellow conservatives in Congress was clear. "They should be encouraged by the word conservative being very close to conservation. The evidence is persuasive that anybody who cares about the next generation should be in the forefront of seeking to avoid climate change." He said that Britain, one of the few nations which was on course to meet its existing climate commitment by stabilising emissions by 2000, had shown that market economics and the environment went hand in hand.

The British Government claims that its success is due to the privatisation of the electricity industry, which has triggered a switch from inefficient generation to more efficient gas power stations.

Herr Kohl's speech was described by delegates as "seizing the moral high ground". The German leader said that protecting the environment had become bogged down by the worldwide recession since the Rio Earth Summit of 1992. He said that too many industrialised nations have seen environmental protection and economic growth as mutually exclusive.

The United Nations said yesterday that the permanent secretariat of the UN climate convention is to be sited in Bonn.



Li Shuxian, the widow of China's last Emperor, at his new tomb yesterday

China alert to deter democracy protests

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN PEKING

SECURITY at cemeteries in Peking was stepped up yesterday as the Chinese people observed Qing Ming, the day of honouring the dead. Security agencies were on guard against possible demonstrations to remember the fallen of the violent suppression of the pro-democracy demonstrations in Tiananmen Square on June 4, 1989.

Four Western correspondents were asked to leave cemeteries around the capital, including Babaoshan, where the remains of China's leaders are interred or preserved in urns. Qing Ming, the Day of Pure Brightness, is traditionally a time when Chinese sweep the graves of their ancestors, place flowers and choice foods, and pray for their souls.

At the Western Qing Tombs, Li Shuxian, the widow of Pu Yi, China's last Emperor, now in her seventies, prayed at his new grave among his imperial ancestors for the first time. Monks from the officially sanctioned Buddhist Association followed her to the grave, where they chanted sutras for the soul of the departed.

As the sixth anniversary of the Tiananmen massacre approaches, security in Peking has been increased, particularly in view of the serious ill health of Deng Xiaoping, the paramount leader. "We can expect to see increased vigilance from now until after the Tiananmen anniversary," a foreign diplomat said. It was on Qing Ming in 1976, 19 years ago yesterday, some three months after the death of Chou En-lai, China's revered Premier, that Mr Deng, who has transformed the nation through his free-market reforms since returning to power in 1978, fell from grace, after crowds gathered in Tiananmen Square to lay flowers at the Monument to the People's Heroes, which honours Communist martyrs.

Qing Ming has become a metaphor for remembering China's most honoured leaders, such as Chou, who was regarded during his life as Mr Deng's protector. Mr Deng was blamed for the demonstrations at the monument. Although that peaceful observance was also suppressed with strong-arm tactics and labelled a "counter-revolutionary act", there was later a "reversal of verdicts" which deemed the 1976 demonstrations "patriotic".

Many Chinese expect that one day there may also be a reversal of verdicts on the June 1989 protests, possibly after Mr Deng dies, which would bode ill for China's present leaders and might restore such deposed figures as Zhao Ziyang, the former Premier, who lost power just before the Tiananmen suppression for allegedly showing sympathy with the demonstrating students.



Mubarak: complaints by Unesco over road

Pyramids motorway plan is scrapped

FROM REUTER
IN CAIRO

AFTER months of controversy over encroachments on the area around the Giza Pyramids, the Egyptian Government has finally abandoned plans to build a motorway past the only surviving wonder of the ancient world.

The Government will adopt a new route avoiding the plateau, one of the most important places on Unesco's list of World Heritage Sites, according to a statement yesterday by a team from the United Nations group and Egypt's Supreme Council for Antiquities.

The authorities will probably remove a half-finished stretch of eight-lane road which ends about two miles from the Great Pyramid of Cheops, Abdelhalim Noureddin, the SCA secretary-general, said.

President Mubarak suspended work on the motorway late last year after Federico Mayor, Unesco's director-general, wrote to complain that the project and other developments violated an international convention on heritage sites. No final decision was taken until this week's talks with the Unesco mission.

The statement added that the SCA and local Giza administration were planning to do more to remove other developments on the site, which contains blocks of flats, a factory, military camps and two large rubbish dumps.

"We will certainly not allow any further building, even one flat. As for the existing violations . . . I can't say we will remove them tomorrow because I can't throw people out on the street," Mr Noureddin said.

He declined to say how much Egypt had wasted by starting work on the road, and added: "The cost doesn't matter, even if it had cost billions. The site is unique."

Bhutto seeks US support

BENAZIR BHUTTO, the Pakistani Prime Minister, began an official visit to America yesterday in search of weapons, money and political support (Christopher Thomas writes). Washington's goodwill has become vital to her fortunes at home as she struggles to stem the country's slide into political chaos, threatening its young democracy.

She will not be feted as she was on her last visit in 1989. This time she faces tough questions about her own performance, about chaos in Karachi, the drugs crisis, and the nuclear programme.

Polio deaths deal blow to India

Delhi: India's fight against polio has suffered a potentially devastating setback with the death of 11 children, all less than a year old, who received outdated vaccines at a rural clinic (Christopher Thomas writes). The tragedy could disrupt a mass vaccination campaign aimed at destroying the disease in one of its last strongholds. About 60 per cent of the world's crippling cases of polio are in India, which has 100 million children under five — the highest risk group.

Mrs Mandela threatens to sue

Johannesburg: Winnie Mandela, the estranged wife of the South African President, is threatening to sue him and his senior colleagues over her dismissal from the Government (Michael Hamlyn writes). Mrs Mandela was sacked as Deputy Minister of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology eight days ago. Her lawyers said yesterday that her suit would also name Thabo Mbeki, the First Deputy President, and other African National Congress politicians.

France honours Hollywood stars

Paris: The American film stars Lauren Bacall and Dustin Hoffman have been given two of France's highest cultural honours. The widow of Humphrey Bogart, who appeared in *Prêt à Porter*, was made a Commander of the Order of Arts and Letters at a ceremony in Paris. Hoffman, whose latest film is *Outbreak*, was named an Officer of the order. *(AFP)*

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Dictatorial Fujimori finds support for campaign in the slums of Peru


Fujimori: identified closely with army

FROM GABRIELLA GAMINI
IN AREQUIPA, SOUTHERN PERU

"FOLLOW ME, my people," said the round-faced, bespectacled President Fujimori as he stood with his hands raised up to the glaring sun on a platform in front of a crowd of shanty town dwellers.

"I have brought you light and water. If you follow me, you will have a better future."

The dust-covered faces of at least a thousand locals who had waited all day in the Andean sun for this speech had never seen a president in person before. So, despite muttering quietly about not having any running water or electricity, they clapped, waved and cheered for *El Chino*, a nickname erroneously earned because of his Japanese parentage. "We will vote for you," they cried.

"They see me as their only hope," said Señor Fujimori as we squeezed into a Jeep with several of his armed security guards to rush off to open a school in another, nearby slum. Leaning out of the window to meet the outstretched hands of his supporters, he kept saying: "Look, how much my people love me."

The President, 57, has been touring the country for months inaugurating public works in an effort to gain votes for his re-election in polls on Sunday. These activities have increased in recent weeks because, although leading in the opinion polls with 42 per cent, he is not assured the outright majority required to avoid a second round. Peruvian law demands a deciding round if one candidate fails to win more votes than all the others put together. Support for his closest rival, Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the former UN Secretary-General, has been growing and is currently at 21 per cent.

The President is popular among businessmen and the poorer sections of Peru, in part due to adopting free market reforms. Another reason is his Government's success in stemming the violent campaign waged by Maoist Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) guerrillas, who have killed 27,000 people in ten years and cost more than £12.5 billion.

In five years, inflation has been reduced from a ludicrous 8,000 per cent to 10 per cent. What was a bankrupt state has turned into Latin America's fastest growing economy, with 12 per cent growth last year, attracting a flow of foreign investments.

Back on the campaign trail in Arequipa, the President was keen to show off his achievements. "I've built three schools every day in the last year, countless numbers of hospitals and roads linking southern Peru with Chile. I've got rid of terrorism and although some people say I am dictatorial, I don't care: that's just my style."

But the President's tersely authoritarian style, first revealed when he closed Congress and dismantled the judiciary with the help of the army in April 1992, saying they were "dens of corruption", has received growing criticism. He has also dabbled with the constitution to allow for his re-election, as previously presidents were allowed one five-year term. Elections replacing Congress in 1993 restored a semblance of democracy but the President has continued to govern by decree, making no secret of the fact that he is close to the military, an army that has been accused of committing thousands of human rights violations.

But while Señor Fujimori's successes seem to have earned him the unconditional loyalty of shanty town communities like those around Arequipa, the President cannot rule out the possibility that Peruvians may demand a more democratic leadership when they go to the polls.

Tens of thousands 'held in Rwanda torture centres'

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT, AND SAM KILEY IN KIGALI

UP TO 50,000 people are being detained in Rwanda, half of them feared to be held in unofficial secret detention centres where torture is commonplace, according to Amnesty International.

Amid the collapse of the judicial system in the wake of the massacres that began a year ago today, not one person has been tried, the human rights group says. "About 24,000 accused of involvement in the 1994 massacres have been detained since July 1994. Most of them face a blanket charge of 'genocide' and none has been brought to trial," Amnesty says in a report issued today after several of its members spent three months in Rwanda.

As many people again are thought to be held in the secret detention centres, makeshift cells in private homes, even latrines and shipping crates, a member of the Amnesty team said yesterday. "One woman was held in a toilet for several weeks; people are kept in holes in the ground," Jo Wells said.

The huge number of official and unofficial arrests, and the lack of trials, mean that the innocent are being unjustly held, the guilty are going unpunished, and some relatives of the million victims of last year's genocide are taking the law into their own hands to conduct private vendettas against those whom they suspect of involvement.

Even those held in official prisons are dying because of the appalling conditions, Amnesty says. "In March, for example, 22 people died from suffocation after a group of more than 70 detainees were crowded into a single cell — designed to hold only ten prisoners — at Muhima Gendarmerie brigade in Kigali."

As the rights group prepared yesterday to publish its report, a sea of men languished in Kigali prison — 7,274 Hutus accused of participating in the slaughter of a million of their Tutsi rivals during the genocide.

The Rwandan Government yesterday postponed the start of genocide show trials planned to start today. But the six young men scheduled to appear in the dock, when the trials finally start, are far down the hierarchy of former government ministers and intellectuals who planned the massacres. Most of the main players in the slaughter are living as exiles abroad or in refugee camps in Rwanda's neighbouring countries.

The killings started as soon as news that President Habyarimana's aircraft had been shot down at night as it returned from peace talks with the Tutsi-dominated Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF), which drove the Hutu Government from power last year.

Between April 6 and the end of June last year, only 100,000 Tutsis were able to avoid being killed by machinesguns, grenades, machetes and clubs. The entire country stank of rotting corpses, every water source was jammed with victims of the slaughter, and Lake Victoria was turned into a ghastly reservoir of rotting human flesh.

But the six men who would have stood trial today said they did not see any massacres, other than those perpetrated by the rebel RPF.

Ngomayubu, 17, who said he had no first name, was arrested when he was allegedly identified as having been part of Rwanda's killing machine by a Tutsi woman who survived. He protested his innocence after he was accused of killing six people, his neighbours, and throwing them into a ditch. He faces the death penalty if convicted.

Suspects are identified

New York: The international prosecutor investigating last year's genocide in Rwanda said yesterday that he had identified about 400 suspects and planned to issue the first formal charges later this year (James Bone writes).

Richard Goldstone, the former South African judge now serving as prosecutor for the United Nations tribunals set up to try crimes against humanity in Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia, said that some of the suspects were still in Rwanda. However, some of them had already fled to other regions of Africa and to Europe and North America.


Prosecutors Hank Goldberg, left, Marcia Clark and Rocknie Harmon listening to evidence in the O. J. Simpson trial

Prosecution blunders anger O.J. Simpson judge

FROM GILES WHITTELL
IN LOS ANGELES

JUST when they hoped to impress jurors with pictures of incriminating bloodstains, prosecutors in the O. J. Simpson murder trial have infuriated the judge with procedural blunders and seen one of their key witnesses admit to changing his evidence.

Never in the ten-week-old trial has the prosecution seemed as flat-footed next to Mr Simpson's "dream team" as when Hank Goldberg, a district attorney, apologised on Tuesday for revealing evidence that Judge Lance Ito had ordered should be withheld from the jury. Even more damaging for the prosecutors was their failure to prevent a wounding attack by the defence on Dennis Fung, a police criminologist and veteran of 500 murder cases, who supervised the collection of blood samples from the scene of the murders of Mr Simpson's former wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend, Ronald Goldman, last year. The actor, television broadcaster and former football star has pleaded not guilty to the killings.

Mr Fung said at two pre-trial hearings that he had collected most of the blood himself. However, Barry Scheck, for the defence, forced him to admit that a trainee working on her third murder case did most of the work and that he had given inaccurate evidence under oath. Mr Scheck showed the jury a video of the trainee, Andrea Mazzola, inserting several blood samples into plastic bags without changing her gloves — a practice Mr Fung has called "sloppy".

The prosecution moved into a crucial phase of the trial this week hoping to mesmerise jurors with the bloody glove found on Mr Simpson's property, and photographs of bloodstains in his Ford Bronco. DNA analysis of the blood links it to Mr Simpson as well as the two victims, Marcia Clark, a district attorney, said in her opening statement. However, the jury also heard Judge Ito's stinging rebuke of Mr Goldberg, who twice appeared to ignore an instruction not to introduce as evidence an air ticket and luggage tag taken by police from Mr Simpson's home. Ironically, neither side sets much store by the two pieces of evidence. However, Judge Ito told Mr Goldberg: "If I were in your shoes . . . I would be contemplating how best to salvage my credibility before the court." Mr Goldberg apologised.

The drama in court is failing to keep the attention of the television networks and CBS and ABC have taken down their makeshift studios in "Camp O.J.", the media-infested car park opposite the court building, and are cutting back their trial coverage.

Major wins credit from flexible friend

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

John Major could barely suppress a smile, almost a smirk, when he listened to President Clinton's praise of his handling of the Northern Ireland peace process at the press conference following their White House talks. Mr Clinton's endorsement was even more than he could have hoped for.

Yet the Prime Minister might have been even more amused if he had known that only three hours later the President was attending a fundraising event at the home of Senator Ted Kennedy, one of the prime movers behind the visit of Gerry Adams to Washington last month.

President Clinton, of course, likes to please those he is addressing at the time. This flexible sincerity is the key to his rise and success.

It also explains why one senior British minister compares him to that arch-manipulator, Harold Wilson. That is as much a compliment as an insult: Lord Wilson did, after all, win four of the five elections he fought.

Mr Major treated Mr Clinton's praise and pledge of support over the decommissioning of IRA arms with restrained enthusiasm.

Throughout his two-day American trip, Mr Major was careful to play down the more effusive compliments paid to him by his hosts. He fully acknowledged the differences with Mr Clinton last month over Mr Adams's visit to Washington, but argued that the two countries' long-term relationship was sufficiently strong to withstand such strains.

Instead, his emphasis was more businesslike, talking of keeping the relationship in "good and fresh repair" by regular meetings. It was less an artificial "kiss and make up" stunt than a display of a close working relationship: how much the two countries agree on issues as diverse as Nato enlargement, Russia, Iraq, Iran, free trade and, now, Bosnia, despite earlier disagreements on the former Yugoslavia in 1993.

This is all true. On many of these issues, Britain remains a close and important ally of America in the United Nations, Nato and similar bodies: a country which the State Department wants to keep on its side.

No dramatic changes of policy are likely to follow from Mr Major's visit. It was more a case of taking stock, particularly on Bosnia, Russia and the Middle East; less a summit than a review board. However, Mr Major was keen to press some fresh British thoughts in some areas — notably over a new look at the international financial institutions, such as the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, to eliminate overlapping work and a pruning of UN agencies.

President Clinton reacted positively to this and the Prime Minister's ideas on taking forward free-trade initiatives.

Also, as he showed in radio interviews broadcast yesterday, Mr Major is interested in strengthening European-US ties by developing the Atlantic community through a broader free-trade area and closer political co-operation. At present these ideas remain nebulous, with little sign of American enthusiasm.

Overall, however, there is a sense that a prime ministerial visit to Washington is no longer a special event. It has received minimal coverage from the American press and television. But from Mr Major's point of view, the visit was a public relations success.

After the White House press conference, a Downing Street official chided a reporter from one of the British tabloids that even he could not write about a snub to Mr Major.

The Prime Minister was able to demonstrate close agreement with American policy-makers on many issues. Mr Major was also able to learn from Newt Gingrich, the Republican House Speaker, about the *Contract with America* programme of cutting back government.

However, the Prime Minister was reluctant to proclaim a "contract with Britain", as some Conservative Party right-wingers would like.

Mr Major did not look like a Prime Minister on the way out. However, the people of Scotland vote later today.

PETER RIDDELL

Impromptu dinner turns out peachy

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER
IN WASHINGTON

IN ONE of those carefully planned "spontaneous" gestures of which world leaders are so fond, President Clinton dropped by the fashionable Washington restaurant where John Major was dining on Tuesday night and spent a convivial hour eating peach crumble, drinking coffee and discussing such weighty global issues as basketball, cricket and the President's time at Oxford.

The White House sought to suggest that Mr Clinton had acted on impulse, but that was baloney. British and American officials charged with planning Mr Major's visit had searched hard for an eye-catching event, like last year's trip to Pittsburgh, to dispel the notion that the two leaders cannot stand each other. They realised that "there's a great deal of cynicism in the British press" and that "warm and fuzzy words" at Tuesday's press conference would not suffice, an administration source acknowledged, so they devised this genial tête-a-tête.

Another idea kicked around was that Mr Clinton should end the $150 million-a-year (£93 million) war debt payments from Britain to America. That was deemed politically impractical given America's fiscal problems. It was also suggested that the President should attend a British Embassy dinner for the Prime Minister on Monday, but it clashed with the US college basketball finals featuring Mr Clinton's beloved Arkansas Razorbacks.

Ironically, Mr Clinton drove to the restaurant, a personal favourite called Georgia Brown's, straight from a fundraising dinner at the Virginia home of Edward Kennedy, the senator who did more than anybody to persuade the President to embrace Sinn Fein's Gerry Adams.

He and Mr Major sat side by side on a banquette, swapping political and sporting anecdotes.

As the two men left at 10.30pm after what did, indeed, appear to have been a very friendly meeting, the other diners stood and applauded.


John Major and President Clinton outside the Washington restaurant

Tehran is calm after day of riots

Thousands of Iranian riot police surrounded Tehran's southwestern suburbs yesterday while hundreds of pro-government demonstrators marched peacefully after violent protests over price rises the previous day (Michael Theodoulou writes). Up to 30 people were killed or hurt and hundreds were arrested when security forces, backed by armed helicopters, opened fire on crowds who had set fire to several buildings.

Kibbutz aid

Jerusalem: After months of wrangling, the Israeli Cabinet approved a 5.9 billion shekel (£1.4 billion) package to rescue the country's 270 kibbutzim that were facing liquidation due to massive debts.

Surprise poll

Kuala Lumpur: Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed, the Malaysian Prime Minister, announced a surprise general election. The poll, likely to be held on April 22, had not been due until October. *(Reuter)*

Memory lapse

San Francisco: A federal judge has reversed the conviction of a man jailed for life in California. The conviction was based on his daughter's memory, after a 20-year lapse, of witnessing the murder.

Killer gas hoard

Tokyo: The cult suspected of releasing deadly sarin in Tokyo's subways last month has hidden 25,000 bags of the gas, a magazine reported. A cult member has been arrested with a box of passports. *(AP)*

Lead astray

Jerusalem: Israel's Customs Authority confiscated 18,000 Chinese-made pencil boxes destined for the PLO-run Gaza Strip because their covers label Israel "Palestine" in a map of the Arab world. *(AP)*


Residents watch as the business centre of the Philippine town of Ipil blazes after the Muslim guerrilla onslaught

Manila troops told to pursue rebels

FROM REUTER IN IPIL, THE PHILIPPINES

AN EXTREMIST group was blamed yesterday for an attack that killed 45 people in the worst violence of a southern Philippine Muslim rebellion for more than 20 years.

President Ramos said that a known commander of the Abu Sayyaf group had led the attack on Ipil, Mindanao island. He identified the man as "Commander Nerio" and said he may have joined forces with other Muslim rebel groups to launch Tuesday's attack. The aim of the raid, which left Ipil's town centre almost totally destroyed, was to free Nerio's son who was in jail there, the President said, adding that the raiders may also be linked to six suspected Middle Eastern terrorists arrested in Manila last week.

No group has claimed responsibility for the attack and other officials have said they believe that two other rebel groups, the Moro National Liberation Front and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, were also involved.

President Ramos said he had ordered a military assault on the Abu Sayyaf, blamed for a wave of killings and kidnappings in the southern Philippines in the past two years: "I commanded the armed forces ... to go all out, utilising land, sea and air assets and to shoot to kill those deemed to be members of the Abu Sayyaf."

The mainly Christian Philippines have been plagued for decades by insurgency among its Muslim minority in the south, with about 50,000 people killed in the 1970s in a period of virtual open warfare.

The Ipil attack was the worst single act of violence since the destruction of the town of Jolo in 1973 in fighting between rebels and troops. Survivors said that about 200 heavily armed men wearing military uniforms and red headbands stormed Ipil by land and sea at lunchtime on Tuesday, firing indiscriminately with assault rifles, grenade launchers and bazookas.

Charred bodies still lay among the rubble of the devastated town centre yesterday morning. Almost nothing was left of the sprawling commercial centre of the town of 150,000 people, apart from blackened, smouldering ruins. Police officers and witnesses said the rebels started fires to cover their withdrawal.

The President said that peace talks with the Moro National Liberation Front would not be affected by the raid.

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US pressures 'rogue states' of Middle East

Washington: President Clinton is considering banning American companies from buying Iranian oil, while his Secretary of State, Warren Christopher, has accused Iraq of developing a large arsenal of biological weapons (Tom Rhodes writes).

The parallel attack, which casts both as rogue states of equal threat to regional stability, is an attempt by the Administration to strangle the Iranian economy as the nation attempts to revive its military capability and persuade the United Nations that sanctions against Iraq should remain in place. There has long been a ban on some trade with Iran but Mr Christopher and Madeleine Albright, the US Ambassador to the UN, have been urging a much tougher stance.

"There is absolutely no room for complacency about Iran's efforts," said Mr Christopher. "Five years ago, too many were willing to give Saddam Hussein the benefit of the doubt. We must not make the same mistake with Iran."

Mr Clinton said Iraq has never accounted for 17 tonnes of biological cultures that could be used for developing the plague, cholera and tuberculosis.



French Socialists accused of £1m extortion plot

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

CLAIMS that French Socialists extorted almost £1 million from the Franco-British industrial giant, GEC-Alsthom, brought the sleaze factor back into the country's presidential election campaign yesterday.

According to judicial sources widely reported in the French press, the company that built the Channel Tunnel's Eurostar trains paid 7.5 million francs (£968,000) into two Panamanian accounts used by the Socialist Party in 1989 and 1990. Although nobody has suggested that the party's candidate, Lionel Jospin, was involved in the deals, the accusations come at an awkward time for him, with the first round of the election imminent. In London, GEC was unable to comment on the allegations.

Opinion polls indicate that M Jospin and his Gaullist rivals, Edouard Balladur and Jaques Chirac, are all within a few percentage points of each other in the presidential race, suggesting that the race for the two places in the second-round run-off on May 7 is wide open.

For much of the French electorate, yesterday's disclosures are likely to recall the more tawdry aspects of President Mitterrand's term of office, with which M Jospin remains deeply uncomfortable. Unable either to reject President Mitterrand's record for fear of offending hardcore Socialists or to espouse it for fear of offending middle-of-the-road voters, he had hoped to ignore it. The disclosures about the GEC-Alsthom transaction make that tactic more difficult.

According to press reports, Renaud Van Ruymbeke, France's best known investigating judge, stumbled on the latest corruption allegations almost by chance. He was looking into claims that GEC-Alsthom had bribed Dutch authorities to buy 38 of its railway locomotives when statements by two of the company's former executives placed the Socialists at the centre of his inquiries.

Jean-Pierre Desgeorges, former managing director of GEC-Alsthom, and Franck Vaingnedroye, formerly director of its rail division, have accused the Socialists, who were then in government, of demanding a payment of 12.5 million francs in the late 1980s. Eventually, the two sides agreed on 7.5 million francs, which was paid into two Panamanian accounts, the first in the name of Urban Consulting and the second Henley Commercial. The executives allegedly feared losing official support for the firm's export drive if they failed to hand over the money.

The Socialists denied the accusations yesterday. GEC-Alsthom, which won a £700 million contract to provide new trains for London Underground's Northern Line in December, has denied that it bribed Dutch officials, but so far it has not commented on the claims made by its former executives, M Desgeorges and M Vaingnedroye.

The firm has other worries. Pierre Suard, the chairman and managing director of its French shareholder, Alcatel-Alsthom, has been charged with fraud in connection with an investigation into the over-billing of France Telecom. His appeal against the charges was heard yesterday by the appeal court, which will give its decision next week.

☐ **Candidate withdraws:** Antoine Waechter, the Ecologist Party's candidate in the presidential race, withdrew from the contest yesterday because he was unable to gather the 500 signatures of elected officials he needed to run. *(AP)*

Phoenix ultimatum, page 23



Willy Claes making his first public appearance in several weeks at a press conference in Brussels yesterday

Belgian court is to question Nato chief

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

WILLY CLAES, Secretary-General of Nato, appeared in public for the first time in weeks yesterday to protest his innocence in connection with a Belgian corruption scandal. He did so only hours before the country's highest court sought permission to question him.

The Belgian Cour de Cassation asked parliament to allow it to interview three former ministers, Mr Claes being one, over allegations that an Italian helicopter firm bribed its way to winning a military contract in 1988. Permission is likely to be granted promptly in Mr Claes's case, since he has repeatedly said that he will co-operate with the inquiry. "I am at the disposal of the judicial authorities, [but] I think I have told everything," Mr Claes said yesterday.

A minister in Belgian governments for 14 years before his appointment to Nato last year, Mr Claes was Economic Affairs Minister when the Italian company Agusta was chosen as the supplier of 46 helicopters. Four Belgian ministers have resigned so far and a retired head of the air force has killed himself. Mr Claes has admitted that he heard of a bribe offer to his party, the Flemish Socialists, but ordered that it be rejected.

In London yesterday senior British officials denied that John Major had discussed the possibility of Lord Owen becoming Secretary-General of Nato during his meeting on Tuesday with President Clinton at the White House.

Italian fertility doctor charged

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

A NEAPOLITAN gynaecologist has been ordered to stand trial on charges of using donor sperm without permission during *in vitro* fertility treatment that led to a baby being born with a hereditary disease.

The judge, Osvaldo Maresca, also ordered the closure of the clinic run by Dr Raffaele Magli, whom the Italian press has nicknamed the "test-tube king", and charged him in addition with using only two sperm donors to fertilise eggs that resulted in thousands of births.

The decision followed an investigation after a complaint by the parents of Giada, now 2½, who has been diagnosed as suffering from thalassemia, a type of anaemia that can be fatal. Her mother, Cristina Iervolino, received artifical fertilisation treatment at Dr Magli's clinic, and while she is a carrier of the disease her husband, Roberto, is not. Their suspicions were aroused because both parents must be carriers for the disease to be passed on.

Dr Magli initially responded by claiming that the girl was conceived during an extra-marital affair and claimed the couple was trying to extort money from him as compensation in return for not making the case public.

EU urges Canada to accept fish deal

BY GEORGE BROCK

EUROPEAN Union foreign ministers should be able to debate a proposed fishing agreement with Canada when they meet in Luxembourg on Monday, Emma Bonino, the Fisheries Commissioner, told ambassadors yesterday as transatlantic talks inched towards a deal.

Signora Bonino said that the agreement was not complete but could well be finished by Monday. Today's meeting of EU fisheries ministers in Luxembourg will probably discuss the issue, but it is unlikely to resolve any of the outstanding arguments.

Talks at a higher level were used to try to resolve remaining differences yesterday. Jacques Santer, the European Commission President, telephoned Jean Chrétien, the Canadian Prime Minister, to urge him to make final concessions that would allow a deal to be agreed over the weekend. Mr Santer was also planning to talk to Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister, who rejected the first version of a deal on Tuesday.

Contingency plans have also been laid for Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, to talk to Señor González, if necessary. EU diplomats and officials said yesterday that since the two men get on well, Herr Kohl would be best placed to nudge Señor González towards a settlement. Britain is trying to tempt Canada to compromise further.

"We have now entered a very delicate phase and we remain hopeful that an agreement can be found that will satisfy all sides," Marco Zatterin, the Commission spokesman, said yesterday.

The chances of clinching a deal turn largely on Señor González's assessment of his strength at home. Fishing is an emotive issue, particularly on the Galician coast where the trawler seized by Canada is based. Señor González's Socialist Government only controls parliament with the help of Catalan nationalists. All the compromises involve a drop in the tonnage taken by Spanish boats from the Grand Banks between Newfoundland and Greenland.

Ukraine agrees to arms pact

Vienna: Ukraine has signalled that it will abide by a key European arms treaty, dropping its opposition to limits imposed on where it can deploy military equipment, diplomatic sources said yesterday.

Ukraine had complained that the Conventional Forces in Europe treaty, which was signed by 30 states in 1990, imposed too harsh restrictions on the deployment of such military hardware as tanks and armoured personnel carriers on its borders. Ukraine's change of position leaves Russia largely isolated with its objections to the terms of the treaty, which it says is now unfair. *(Reuter)*

Leading article, page 15

Nuclear treaty 'threatened'

The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty is under considerable threat and could break up, the Commons Foreign Affairs select committee said yesterday (James Landale writes). The warning came as the Government outlined its approach to a conference on April 17 in New York to review the 175-member treaty by saying that it was the "cornerstone of the international non-proliferation regime" and should be extended indefinitely. Many non-nuclear powers, however, are using the conference to wring fresh concessions from the nuclear powers.

Bonhoeffer row may sour service

Bonn: A row erupted yesterday over the legal status of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the anti-Nazi theologian, threatening to sour an Anglo-German memorial service in Coventry on Sunday to honour him (Roger Boyes writes). Under German law Bonhoeffer is a traitor: the military court verdict, which led to his execution, was never overturned. "This casts a dark shadow over Germany's post-war history," said Gregor Gysi, leader of the former communist Party of Democratic Socialism.

Moscow MPs call for Chechen peace talks

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN MOSCOW

THE Lower House of the Russian parliament yesterday called on the Government to agree an unconditional ceasefire and begin talks with the rebel Chechen administration of General Dzhokhar Dudayev.

But the Kremlin, which is continuing an intensive bombardment of Chechen positions, is expected to ignore the call. Since the fall last week of the towns of Shali and Gudermes, General Dudayev's forces hold only one town on the Chechen plains, Achkhoy-Martan, which the Russian are moving to capture.

Russian spokesmen admit that Chechens are still fighting from the Caucasus mountains to the south. The Russians have reportedly launched repeated bombing and artillery raids on Shali and the Caucasus foothills.

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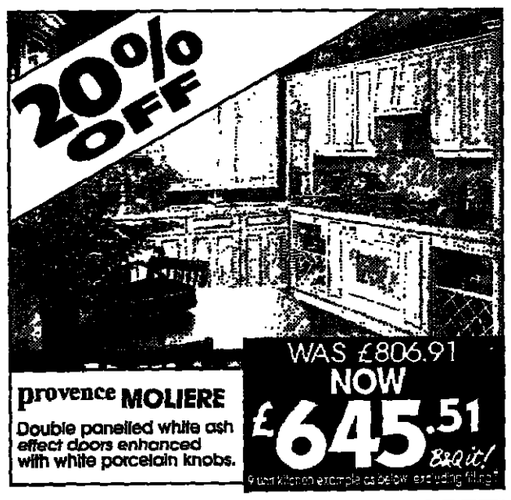
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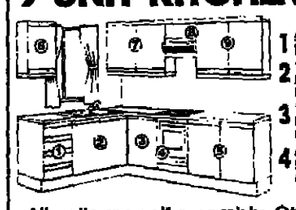
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EASTER OPENING HOURS
LATE OPENING THURSDAY 13th APRIL 8AM to 10PM.
Good Friday and Saturday 15th 8am to 8pm (Northern Ireland stores open 7.30pm).
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A new survey shows the suffering of those who stayed at home in the Second World War

Women in wartime



MARGOT NORMAN

WE HAVE all heard it at some point, the classic exchange between someone who lived through the war and a younger person whose complaint about some trauma or deprivation is cut short with a stern, laconic "you don't know how lucky you are". Indeed we don't, we postwar people. Or rather, we have no real grasp of how unlucky *they* were, of the sheer scale of social dislocation and individual pain they endured between 1939 and 1945, because they have stoically preferred not to talk about it.

It comes as a shock, therefore, to leaf through the 300 pages of wartime statistics and commentary just published by HMSO as *Fighting With Figures* and realise that living in Britain at that time must have been a bit like living in Mao's China.

We have heard so much more about the quarter of the working population who were marched off to fight than about the other three quarters whose lives were turned upside down. Four million mothers and children were sent out from the cities to the countryside; at one point 80,000 young unmarried women were despatched to till the fields as members of the Women's Land Army while their friends found themselves assembling shelves or aircraft, driving ambulances, doing the sort of work that in 1938 they never could have imagined in places they had never even heard of.

We have been taught to count ourselves lucky that, of the 40 million killed in that war, only 360,000 were British: to the generation that witnessed the devastation of mainland Europe it was unseemly to dwell on the individual tragedies of those who were maimed and made homeless as two in every seven houses were damaged by bombs, and of those whose hopes and expectations were shattered as the crime rate and the number of illegitimate births more than doubled, and the divorce rate climbed by no less than 171 per cent at a time when the divorce laws were framed as a deterrent.

A few novels, like those of Mary Wesley, and a few films and memoirs — the scene in *In Which We Serve* that shows the sailor coming home to find his wife with another man, and the raw emotion in Lord Hailsham's account of his own similar experience on returning from the war — give an idea of these personal ordeals. But such accounts are remarkably few, when set against the scale of the statistics in this book. Nobody was untouched by destruction, nobody lived the life they had expected. Suddenly it was the husbands, not the wives, who were suing for divorce on grounds of adultery. And how, once not only the wartime-fling lovers but also the women's wartime livelihoods disappeared as the country concentrated on finding jobs for the returning boys, did those ex-wives manage?

Wartime children asked questions that still need answering. Why, asked a boy evacuated to South Wales from London in 1940, were the miners all on strike? Why, wondered the debutantes, had their dancing partners all volunteered and been killed while the men they found themselves working with in the aircraft factories sat tight until they were called up? And why did the politicians who had run the state in unison fall to squabbling so fiercely the minute the war ended?

Undoubtedly the war gave the class system an overdue and constructive shake-up but to a great extent it settled back into place once the war ended. Marriages and liaisons that were accepted in those dislocated years suddenly became "unsuitable" in their aftermath.

With all those broken communities, broken families and displaced women bringing up children alone in a crime wave, the picture handed down to us of everyone pulling cheerfully together has to be a distorted one. A necessary myth at the time, no doubt, with the core of truth that all myths contain, but one that, after 50 years, we ought to re-examine less in a spirit of zeal for myth shattering than as an exercise of sympathetic questioning of those who have kept quiet all these years.

'You've had your 15 minutes, so come home'

Julia Llewellyn Smith talks to Jeanette Foster, whose army husband went missing in Borneo

PETER TREVNOR



Jeanette Foster: at night she would look at the stars and think "Wherever you are, you must see the same sky"

Major Ron Foster and his wife, Jeanette, live in a small house in a cul-de-sac in Tewkesbury, crammed with souvenirs from his travels and photographs of grandchildren. It is as different as possible from the hostile majesty of Mount Kinabalu in Borneo, where Major Foster and four colleagues were trapped in a narrow gully for more than two weeks.

While Major Foster lay in a narrow cave, subsisting on beef granules and Polo mints, Jeanette paced round her poky living room, waiting for the telephone to ring.

While her husband made increasingly futile attempts to scramble up the valley walls, Jeanette would manically vacuum clean, dust and wash up. Borneo's nights were English days: as Major Foster peered at the sky praying for a helicopter, his wife would be looking at the stars thinking, wherever you are, you must see the same sky. "Well, Ron Foster," she would say aloud. "You've had your 15 minutes, now come home. Don't dare leave me on my own."

It was not as if Jeanette wasn't used to being abandoned. In their 35 years of marriage they moved 21 times, and Major Foster was often away for years. While he spent winters as a ski instructor or was posted for years in Germany, Aden, Sharjah and Hong Kong, Jeanette stayed at home looking after the children, Kerry and Vaughan, and worked as a receptionist. "You go about your business," she says. "We have a really good relationship, although that probably sounds like a load of old rubbish."

The last remark is typical Jeanette Foster: a bit of soppiness and a hasty rebuttal. She has a no-nonsense style that would be the envy of any army wife. "I always said that if wives whose husbands went missing in Burma during the war could cope, then so could I."

Throughout her husband's disappearance, while the world was declaring he must be dead, Jeanette kept her cool in public. "I was distraught," she says, hands twisting nervously. "But I didn't want to be reduced to a weeping wreck. If I cried in front of friends then it would have been awkward for them."

Instead, she was the one who ended up comforting her visitors. "The word 'if' was banned: it was a question of *when* Ron was found. I got upset if anybody hinted that it could be otherwise. It makes it sound as if Ron is superhuman. He had been back a few months before I thought, Christ, he could have died."

But the briskness was a veneer. "If I had gone around in the day weeping and wailing, I wouldn't have known how to cope. I did my wailing at night." Suddenly a tear rolls down her cheek, and Jeanette leaps up as if stung. "Sorry," she sobs, rushing into the kitchen for a hanky. "Oh, what a wally I am. But thinking about it is like being back there again.

"My mind would run riot at night. In the day I had a constant stream of visitors but at night I wanted to be me. I did occasionally make a noise. Hey! This is depressing stuff."

After a fortnight, however, Jeanette's front was beginning to crack. "On the Thursday night I talked to myself and said if they are not found by Easter I will go back to work. Then I fell asleep for six hours, which was just unheard of, and in the morning I felt brilliant, totally different." The telephone rang and an army friend of Ron's, surprised at her cheerful tone, said "You've heard then? They've been found."

"I thought I was going to fall to the floor," says Jeanette.



Major Foster: co-author of a book on the expedition

After being reunited in Hong Kong, the Fosters both refused counselling, yet a year later the stress is still bubbling beneath the surface, exacerbated by an inquiry into the disastrous expedition in which Ron and his colleague, Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Neill, were both reprimanded for poor leadership.

Lieutenant-Colonel Neill, still in the Army, cannot comment, but Major Foster, who retired from the Territorial Army last week after 35 years of military service, smarts at the accusations. He feels his party was abandoned by its recce group, who also suffered horribly, and is annoyed that he has been unable to expand on his feelings in his and Lieutenant-Colonel Neill's book *SOS*, published this week. "I feel strongly that if they had stuck together it would have been successful, but they didn't and that's how it is," says Jeanette. "All I'm thankful for is that it hasn't affected him."

Ron, a Jack Sprat to his chubby wife ("I could have done with losing three stone, not him!"), tells me that he feels guilty about the time he has spent on the book and plans to take Jeanette away soon. They went to Scotland in May, but Ron spent much of it skiing. "Oh nothing has changed," says Jeanette benevolently. "He recently went away for a fortnight to teach skiing, and at the end of the second week he rang and said he wanted to stay for another week. I was disappointed because I'd arranged for ten of us to go to a restaurant. He still doesn't know that."

She feels no bitterness towards her husband. "When he was missing I'd remember all the nice things he'd done for me and I couldn't remember anything nice for him," she giggles. "Have I changed? Not really." She stopped work after Christmas but quickly started again. "I thought, he'll go off again and I'll be sitting at home waiting, getting bored." She is, she admits, more neurotic than she used to be, but she would never prevent Ron from going again. "How could I? How could you live with a man who's done it all his life? I think we are very lucky, really, when over the years we look around and a lot of friends are not together any more. I can't imagine it any different."

● *SOS is published by Century today, £16.99*

Salad days of a perfect girl

Valerie Grove meets an 80-year-old fitness guru who inherited a health and beauty league from her mother



Prunella Stack, aged 80

At 17, Prunella Stack was labelled "The Perfect Girl". Her mother, Mary Bagot Stack, had founded the Women's League of Health and Beauty, and brought up her daughter to be a testimony to its disciplines: daily exercises, fresh air, and a regime of soups and salads which all seemed very avant-garde in 1930.

Today at 80 Prunella remains the league's president: straight-backed, elegant, exuding vital wellbeing. Renamed "Health and Beauty Exercise", the league celebrates its sixty-fifth anniversary this Saturday at the Royal Albert Hall.

Prunella was named after the flower, known as selfheal; although its colour (royal purple) is not her favourite, it grows on the Hebridean hillsides where she loves to stride, and as her life story demonstrates, she is a self-healing creature, despite a series of crushing blows.

Just after Prunella was born in India in 1914, her 32-year-old mother watched her officer husband ride off to the trenches, where he died in the first weeks of the war.

As a fatherless only child, Prunella obediently followed her mother's health-and-exercise principles. She was tutored at home in a Holland Park house with high ceilings, except for one rebellious year when she insisted on going to a girls' boarding school.

Her mother died from cancer at 51, when her five-year-old league was expanding internationally. So at 20, Prunella had to take over. The Perfect Girl fell in love with tall, handsome, athletic Lord David Douglas-Hamilton, as they climbed in the Alps and the Highlands together. But one day in 1944 he flew off to France and was killed at the controls of his Spitfire, leaving her with two infant sons.

Six years after her first husband's death, Prunella found happiness again with Alfred Albers, a South African surgeon: they began a new life in Cape Town. Eight months later they were climbing together on Table Mountain when he fell 90 feet. She sat beside him as he died.

The loss was terrible. Twice, she climbed alone back to the ledge where he had fallen, and placed wild flowers on the little cairn built in his memory. After a few years she returned home to send her boys to her friend Kurt Hahn's school, Gordonstoun. Her mother's league, by 1950 a global organisation (motto: Movement is Life), provided her with busy purpose. She learnt that the way out of grief is: "Look outwards. Forget yourself."

Her third marriage gives a happy ending to this story. Thirty years ago she married the writer and barrister Brian Power. She explains her serenity thus: "Happiness depends on one's nature. I think I have always been a happy person."

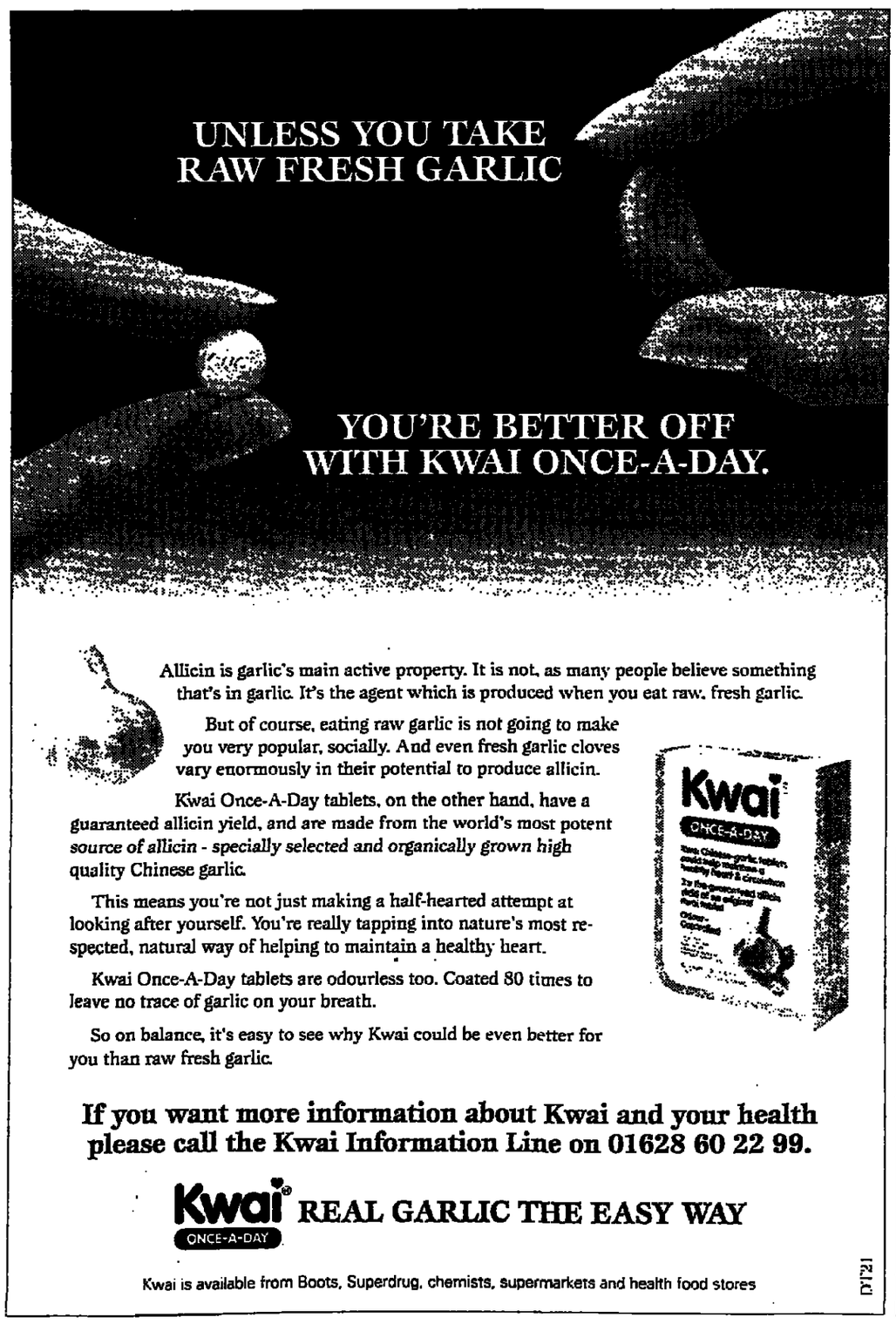
She is still the league's perfect girl. At five foot seven, she weighs eight stone, her hearing quite unimpaired, and she needs no reading glasses. "That's mostly luck," she says. "But I do think the daily exercises help, and although everybody diets now, I have eaten like that all my life. My mother was ages ahead of her time."

She has watched fitness fads come and go. "Aerobics stimulate the heartbeat but don't do much for your inner self, which we think a most important extra dimension," she says. "But of course, all exercise makes your whole self feel better."

After two hip replacements — "something is bound to go," she says, "and the hip is the best thing because the operation is so magical" — she sprang back to fitness, helped by her positive attitude. She is going to spend her eighty-first summer walking in the Pyrenees.

She celebrated her eightieth birthday in Kenya, where her son Iain is an elephant expert. She also travels to Boston to see her other son. The discipline instilled by her mother extends not just to physical activity but to the mind. She writes poems, attending poetry classes at Morley College, and is passionate about learning poetry by heart, fragments shored against one's ruin. When I saw her she had just learnt Yeats's *The Second Coming*, and Hopkins's lovely poem, *Peace*.

"My older son told me it's very important to learn something by heart every day to make your grey cells work — or they depart."



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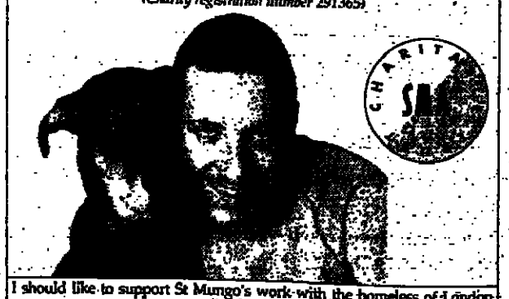
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Victory over the plague of youth

Will polio become the second infectious disease to be wiped out?

Dr James Le Fanu reports

Next week sees the 40th anniversary of the single most dramatic moment in the history of postwar medicine. On April 12, 1955, Jonas Salk, the head of the Virus Research Laboratory at the University of Pittsburg, announced at a meeting broadcast by closed-circuit television to 54,000 doctors in 61 cities that trials of the polio vaccine he had been developing for more than a decade showed it to be almost 100 per cent effective.

Throughout the United States, the church bells pealed. Celebrated already, Salk was now sanctified. "We love this young man in a white coat, a hero of test-tube magic, a saviour of little children," a contemporary observed. Everyone wanted to shake or kiss his hand, shower him with cash and presents.

In the previous year alone, polio had blighted the lives of 50,000 children in the United States. Every summer for as long as anyone could remember, communities had been haunted by the fear that a polio epidemic would sweep through them, indiscriminately killing the young and healthy, while leaving the survivors with a legacy of wasted limbs and destroyed ambitions. Now that fear had been lifted at last.

The story of the victory over polio has been elegantly described by Tony Gould, himself a victim, in his new book, *A Summer Plague*. Compelling interviews with polio survivors provide an insight into how the disease affected their lives.

The polio virus attacks the anterior horn cells of the spinal cord from which the nerves emerge that control muscular movement. Before the discovery of the vaccine, treatment was to save life and then rehabilitate.

Polio is a devastating illness involving many muscle groups. If these include the muscles of the chest wall, then breathing becomes increasingly laboured and death soon intervenes. However, if the victim can be kept alive in the early stages, then some power may return, hence the significance of the "iron lung", which, by exerting negative pressure on the chest, allows air to be drawn into the lungs.

> 'The iron lung clasping my neck was like a hideous straitjacket'

Drawing on his own experience, Gould recounts what it was like: "I felt as though both my legs were clamped to the sheet and the iron lung firmly clasping my neck was a hideous form of straitjacket. There were moments when I felt so completely vulnerable that I broke into a cold sweat, when I was so overcome with claustrophobia that my head seemed to burst with the silent screaming of panic. Then I would concentrate on the heavy, monotonous breathing of the machine which caused my chest to heave and subside."

He was struck down by polio while doing National Service with the Gurkhas in Hong Kong, and after a month was flown back to England for physiotherapy and rehabilitation. "When I stood up for the first time in months, holding on to the parallel bars for dear life, I was almost overcome with vertigo," he says.

The trust based in Salk's vaccine and that of his fellow American Albert Sabin, which was licensed four years later, has been entirely justified. In the Western world Gould's experience and that of thousands like him is now a distant memory, and polio is extremely rare.

Indeed, so potent are these vaccines that tomorrow the World Health Organisation (WHO) will announce its intention of making polio the second infectious disease to be eradicated worldwide (smallpox was the first). This might seem an unachievable goal were it not for the extraordinary success of the eradication programme in Central and South America over the past decade.

In 1985, the Pan-American Health Organisation, based in Brazil, launched an intensive vaccination programme centred on twice-yearly National Vaccine Days, in which legions of volunteers went out into the community to vaccinate every child under five. This has been supplemented by "mop-up" operations: when a case of polio is reported, health teams move into the area within 72 hours and go from house to house vaccinating the children. As a result the immunisation rates leapt from 40 per cent to nearly 90 per cent, and the 1,100 cases of polio reported in South America in 1985 have been reduced to zero — the last being in Peru in September 1991.

There are still an estimated 100,000 new cases of polio every year, almost all of them in sub-Saharan Africa and the Indian sub-continent. Theoretically, drawing on the lesson learnt in South America, the disease could be eradicated from these regions as well, although it is not likely that the WHO's target date of the year 2000 will be met. However, as Andrew Hall, senior lecturer at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, has pointed out in the *BMJ*, it certainly could be. What is required are sufficient funds and the restoration of a minimal health service where it has been destroyed by civil upheaval.

"The science is the least of the challenges," he writes. "The WHO needs to persuade politicians that the eradication of polio is a sensible and realistic target in the face of many competing demands."

● A Summer Plague: Polio and its Survivors, *by Tony Gould, is published on April 12 by Yale University Press (£19.95).*

SCIENCE PHOTO LIBRARY



Saviour of the little children: Jonas Salk administers the vaccine which he worked on for more than a decade

Strokes and headaches ☐ Motor neurone disease

Can a migraine signal danger?



MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

MIGRAINE sufferers find it hard to believe when they are enduring an attack that the trouble could possibly be transitory, and that they may well wake up next day, or in other cases in a day or two, feeling as if nothing had been amiss. The pounding headache accompanied by anorexia, nausea and sometimes vomiting; a dread of light and noise, a disturbed vision with a patchy loss of sight and extremities which are cold, clammy and blue, all seem too awful not to be associated with long-term damage.

Surprisingly, previous statistics have suggested that although there could be a relationship between migraine and stroke, the 10 per cent of the population who have classic migraine, together with another 20 per cent who have severe headache with some migrainous features, tend to live longer than other people. But recently two pieces of research have confirmed the possible links between stroke and migraine.

In Paris doctors have been studying the influence of migraine on the incidence of stroke in young women; and in America, research workers have questioned 22,071 male doctors aged between 40 and 84 about migraine.

The *BMJ* has published the French research. The encouraging news is that all young women with migraine are not at risk of developing a stroke. The bad news is that although the risk is low, there is, judging from these figures, some relationship between migraine in women under 45 and the chance of having a stroke.

In the survey, the French doctors made allowances for other possible causes of stroke, but even when these had been discounted, there was an independent increase in the incidence of strokes in migraine sufferers. This risk was greater if the migrainous patient also smoked or took the Pill. The risk is not greatly heightened — a Parisian woman under 45 without migraine has a chance of ten in 100,000 of having a stroke in any one year, if she has migraine this is increased to 19 in 100,000.

The United States study, analysed in the journal *Monitor Weekly*, found that American doctors who had migraine had double the risk of suffering a stroke even after these statistics had been adjusted to take account of other risk factors.

Doctors commenting on both trials said that a case can be made for recommending that patients with migraine should make sure that their blood pressure is well-controlled, that they remain slim, don't smoke cigarettes, take regular exercise and if they are a woman, choose a low-dose Pill.

Dr Clifford Rose, director of the London Neurological Centre and founder of the Princess Margaret Migraine Clinic at the Charing Cross Hospital, is more sanguine. "I am concerned in case millions of migraine sufferers are alarmed by this research. Even if there was a risk, it would be a very limited one. It is virtually impossible in a survey of this sort to remove all the possible confounding factors.

"Patients with migraine should be reassured by Professor Ethan Waters's research at Southampton University, which showed that they tended to live longer than the rest of the population."

High hope for drug



THREE people die of motor neurone disease every day. Although as many people in Britain are dying of the disease as they are of Aids, public awareness of the condition was very low until actor David Niven developed it. At about the same time, the Duchess of York became patron of the Motor Neurone Disease Association, after the death of her publisher friend Sir Robert Cooke, MP.

Other famous people who have recently suffered from it include Group Captain Leonard Cheshire, VC, Jill Tweedie the writer, and Don Revie, the football manager.

There is a slight increase in the number of recorded cases, which can be accounted for by an ageing population — as more people are now living to an age when they are more likely to develop it.

Each year there is one new case for every 50,000 people. In about 90 per cent of cases there is no evidence of any other relative having had it. Patients live on average for three to five years from the onset of the disease, but in some cases the disease can develop very rapidly. Jill Tweedie only lived for four months after diagnosis of the illness.

In other cases a patient may live for a much longer time than is predicted: in amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, one of the varieties of the disease, 10 per cent of patients survive for ten years.

In time, the progressive paralysis affects the muscles of breathing and swallowing, and death usually ensues from respiratory failure. One of the most distressing features of the disease is that so far nothing has altered its course. This week Rhône Poulenc-Rorer announced the result of the trials of a new drug, Riluzole, which confirms a previous smaller study showing that although it does not cure, it does marginally prolong the life of a patient.

The increased lifespan gained in the smaller survey was only about three months. The improved survival times found in the larger trial are to be announced next month. The importance of the new discovery, modest as the benefit is, is that for the first time a treatment has materially affected the pattern of the disease. Mr George Levy, of the Motor Neurone Disease Association, says: "It is encouraging at last to have something which makes a difference. It gives hope that scientists may be on the right track, but how far this track leads nobody, as yet, knows. We look forward to the data being approved so that if it is, Riluzole can be made more generally available."

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Janet Daley



■ The BBC has less to fear from blathering Tories than from the thuggery on the opposite benches

Forget the democratic process. Politics — or, at least, the freedom to discuss it — is in the hands of the lawyers now. If the decision by the Scottish Court of Session on the BBC's decision to broadcast an interview with the Prime Minister is allowed to stand, the way will be open for any politician or party to seek a legal ban on any programme which it regards as unfair. Interviewing the Prime Minister will not be possible during the run-up to any election, even when the issues to be discussed with him are unrelated to those likely to influence that election's outcome.

Tories bleating about BBC bias have been left standing by the strong-arm tactics of Tony Blair's press secretary, Alastair Campbell. He has triumphantly waved the BBC's own guidelines under its nose, claiming that absolute equality of airtime is required "in the run-up to an election". For the purposes of the Opposition, this is assumed to mean that — so far as broadcasters are concerned — the Prime Minister is nothing more than the head of the party in power.

This wording makes good sense (even if it is a mechanistic and impoverished definition of "impartiality") applied to general elections, when Parliament is prorogued and the Prime Minister is relegated to being just a leader of one competing political party. There are people with stopwatches at all party headquarters who make it their business to monitor this aspect of coverage in national contests. But in local elections when it is council, not parliamentary, seats that are being fought, the Prime Minister remains the head of the Government with a right (not to say a responsibility) to be questioned in those terms.

Which is to say, *he* is not running for office. To pretend that this makes no *difference — that the sight of* the Prime Minister being interrogated about national and international policies would exert an overwhelming and intolerably prejudicial influence on Scottish voters electing their local councillors — is so absurd as to seem disingenuous. Since no one could possibly believe that account of the Opposition's motives, what is really going on here?

With a loftiness that beggared belief, George Robertson crowed over Labour's legal victory, declaring that their action had helped to guarantee the "independence" of the BBC. By which he meant to imply that the broadcasting of this *Panorama* interview was a symptom of the BBC caving in to government pressure. In fact, the decision to go ahead with the *Panorama* programme this week was taken well before the blathering of Jonathan Aitken to *the effect that the BBC had a* left-wing bias. Mr Robertson's comment also assumes that the corporation is living in fear of the Government failing to renew its charter. Does anyone inside the BBC really envisage this craven Government — which seems to perform a *volte face* every time its policies come in for mild criticism — taking on the public opprobrium that would follow a failure to underwrite the future of one of the country's finest public institutions?

If the BBC has little to fear from a toothless Government, it is in real danger *from politicians on the other* side of the House, whose thuggish behaviour seems determined to prove that they can bully the media at least as effectively as the Tories. The communications which flew back and forth between Tony Blair's office and the BBC over a two-day period at the end of March are a truly breathtaking essay in heavy-handed interference with the content of political broadcasting. Alastair Campbell not only threatened court action against the corporation — which is, in itself, an unprecedented interpretation of the notion that the corporation has a "statutory obligation" to be impartial. He went much further.

> Labour's recent interference with the BBC was breathtaking

Taking it upon himself, as he puts it, to "offer a specific solution to the problem (of impartiality) which you face", he suggested that the whole concept of the *Panorama* programme be changed. Ruling out of the question the BBC's right to interview the Prime Minister alone, he outlined a quite different format.

He pointed out that "paragraph 3.2 (of the BBC guidelines) states that the voices of the Nationalist parties fighting in Scotland and Wales should be represented in UK coverage". But the "rush of offers from other programmes to Alex Salmond clearly will not be *sufficient" to meet the criteria.* So he proposed a four-way discussion in which Mr Major, Mr Blair, Mr Ashdown and Mr Salmond would all take part.

Now you may feel that this constitutes a degree of arrogant presumption which goes well beyond the pathetic bleatings about bias which have come from the Tory back benches (egged on, it is widely believed, by the front bench). You may indeed conclude that what Mr Campbell was engaged in was an unblushing attempt to interfere directly in editorial judgment on political coverage. But then Mr Campbell used to be a journalist. Perhaps he simply forgot himself for a moment in his eagerness to offer his professional advice to the BBC current affairs department.

The row between the Health Secretary and her colleague conceals a deeper divide, says **Nicholas Wood**

Old wounds reopened in hospital debate

Personal animosity and political ambition are central to the running feud between Virginia Bottomley and John Redwood. But the divide between the two ministers — exposed by the Welsh Secretary's criticism of her "big is beautiful" NHS philosophy — masks a deeper debate in Tory circles about how to square *market disciplines* with the popular prejudices of parents and patients.

The irony is that Bottomley, who wastes no opportunity to declare her undying devotion to the NHS, is cast as the accountant's apostle. Redwood, one of the architects of the attempt to make schools and hospitals compete for survival, now insists *that the balance sheet is not enough.*

Style also comes into the extraordinary drama being played out at Westminster where, after a two-year gestation, Tory MPs are up in arms over the Health Secretary's blueprint for the closure of some of London's most famous hospitals. Her hectoring manner, her readiness to loose off salvos of statistics when under pressure and her tendency to confuse political courage with sheer stubbornness have brought even courtly souls like Peter Brooke to the brink of revolt.

But as she struggles for political survival, hoping that John Major's return from bridge-building in Washington can help to salvage her reputation, it is Redwood who is her chief *bête noire.*

Those who claim to know them well make no secret of the distaste between the saturnine Fellow of All Souls — and the Cabinet's only PhD — and his senior colleague. On Tuesday night, after Redwood had delivered a speech containing scarcely veiled criticism of *Bottomley's* plans to take the knife to London's hospitals, the two ministers had a brief and angry exchange in the voting lobbies.

The rift goes back a way. In November 1993, Redwood, who has responsibility for health policy in his Welsh fiefdom, trespassed onto the national stage by urging the Health Secretary to turn her attention to "the men in grey suits". This was an act of recantation by the technocratic Redwood — a recognition by him that Margaret Thatcher's market-based health reforms had turned into a battery farm for administrators.

But now Redwood has returned to the fray. On the day that Bottomley issued a press release confirming her decision to close St Bartholomew's Hospital after nearly 900 years and rob Guy's of most of its patients, Redwood was before the Welsh Grand Committee of the country's MPs, singing the praises of the Mardy Hospital in Merthyr Tydfil, which was opened by Keir Hardie, *once the local MP, in 1904.*

The health authority had wanted to close its geriatric and psychiatric beds and transfer them to the local district general. Redwood was having none of it. "We still need the small spokes, the smaller hospitals in each town and valley. The local hospital remains a cherished institution."

On the face of it, none of this really adds up. Redwood has supposedly long since lived down his humble origins in 1951 as the son of an accounts clerk and shop manageress in Dover. As head of the Downing Street Policy Unit during Thatcher's heyday in the mid-1980s, and with his well-trained grasp of the balance sheet and the computer printout, he should be the one insisting that expert opinion must have its way.

Far from it. Astonished MPs on the Welsh Grand were treated to the observation that it was a "myth" that it was cheaper to close shabby old hospitals like Mardy and concentrate *money, manpower and machinery in* the gleaming temples of high-tech medicine. Hospital closures must be based on "health arguments, not financial consideration".

Suddenly, the Vulcan (as the coldly efficient Welsh Secretary has been dubbed) had a human face. Bottomley, meanwhile, hails from a different planet. Only three years older than Redwood, she is the product of generations of unreflecting do-goodery — the Garnetts and the Jays — who delight in their annual Easter reunion on the Isle of Wight and take much self-satisfaction from their bracing walks across the cliffs.

If anyone ought to be softening the edges of Thatcher's cash-driven health reforms, it should be the Essex sociology graduate and former psychiatric social worker. Far from it. Bottomley, the most telegenic of the Tory women, is acutely conscious of being one of only two women in the Cabinet. Her friends say she is determined to prove she is "no bimbo". With the occasional tactical retreat, she has broadly stuck by the diagnosis of a capital over-provided with beds, doctors and hospitals.

Yesterday, Bottomley was hardly off the airwaves as she struggled to beat off the twin assault from Redwood and Peter Brooke, her former Cabinet colleague, who had accused her of lacking the "moral courage" to come immediately to the House to defend herself.

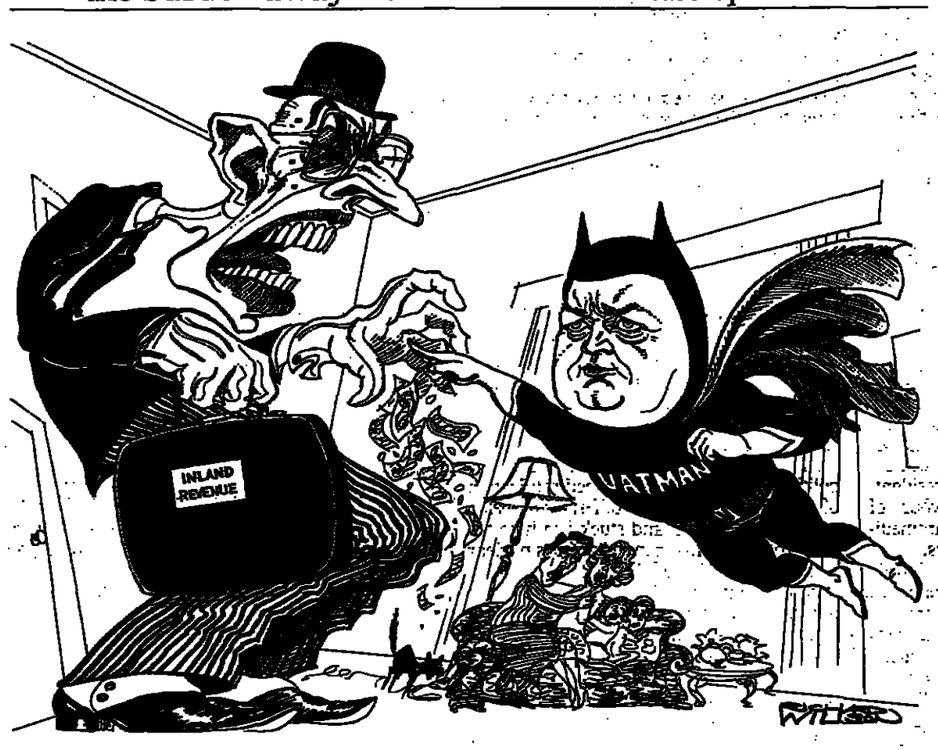
"Somebody who does my job has got to face decisions, not fudge them," she declared as she sought to justify a package that, late in the day, has appalled Tory MPs already fearful of losing their seats at the next election.

The King's Fund, "eminent doctors", the WHO and the OECD had all endorsed the health reforms. "You have to run the health service on evidence, on statistics, not anecdote," was her riposte.

Bottomley was relying on expert opinion. Redwood, who sometimes looks as if he was beamed down by a committee of the great and the good, knows that even the experts have their limits.

A future free of income tax

To provide for its ageing population, Britain must shift the burden away from earners and onto spenders



William Rees-Mogg

When Britain still had capital punishment, the Home Secretary kept a small frame with the date of the next execution on his desk. If there was such a frame on the desk of the Chancellor of the Exchequer it would have a single date inscribed on it: 2011. The same date would be on the desk of every finance minister of the Group of Seven countries. What is so disturbing about 2011? That is the year when a baby born in 1946 will reach the retirement age of 65. *The baby boom years after the war* stretched from 1946 to the late 1960s.

In all the G7 countries the baby boom was followed by a generation when very few babies were born. The Pill, abortions and women's careers all contributed to a steep reduction in the number of live births. After 2011 there will be a period of at least 25 years when there are too many pensioners to support and too few people of working age to earn the revenue to support them. Many of the pensioners will need chronic nursing care.

The baby boomers have proved to be an over-taxed and improvident generation. In Europe they pay about 45 per cent of their income in one form or another of taxation. In the United States they have saved only a third of what would be needed to maintain their standard of living in retirement. As a result the welfare systems of all the G7 countries are likely to become insolvent in the years after 2011, some of them spectacularly so. Sixteen years is not a long time to prepare for such major demographic changes.

In Washington yesterday, Senator Richard Lugar, who is a possible Republican candidate for the presidency, announced at the Cato Institute his proposal to abolish the US income tax. He would replace personal and corporate income tax, and capital gains tax, with a national sales tax. The Cato Institute itself believes that this would lead to a "less intrusive, less complicated, more growth-oriented tax system for the 21st century".

Senator Lugar's proposal can be matched by similar proposals in many other countries, including some very advanced tax reforms being proposed in New Zealand. Different countries would use different forms of expenditure tax to replace income tax. When, in 1992, George Bush lost his presidential election in the United States, American Conservatives were set free to develop their post-Reagan agenda. The British Conservatives have not yet developed their post-Thatcher agenda. The electoral success of Newt Gingrich's *Contract with America* makes it very probable that the abolition of income tax will become part of the Republican platform for the presidential campaign of 1996.

Strong economic arguments exist for such a change. The classical economic theorists always recognised that taxes cut into savings, and that low-tax countries prospered better than high-tax. David Ricardo, the great economist, stated this classic view in the 1821 edition of his *Principles*: "There are no taxes which have not a tendency to lessen the power to accumulate... if they encroach on capital, they must proportionately diminish that fund by whose extent the productive industry of the country must always be regulated." That ugly chunk of counting-house prose is the true classic doctrine: if you tax income, you reduce savings; reduce savings and you reduce productive investment. Few economists have questioned this logic, and the idea of an expenditure tax has therefore attracted economists of the Left as well as the Right.

The United States has the most dangerous shortage of savings, which largely accounts for the present extraordinary weakness of the dollar. Even Europe has savings levels little more than half those of *Asian competitors. World savings are* highly dependent on Asia, particularly on Japan, and on private offshore funds, which do not pay national taxes. Nothing contributes more to world prosperity than the work of tax havens in preserving the savings of the rich from the hands of national tax collectors. Even the drug cartels, by laundering their money through the world's offshore banking system, are actually helping to make good the lethal inadequacy of the savings of the United States.

The proposal to introduce an expenditure tax was last seriously discussed in Britain by the Harold Wilson Government of the late 1960s, with Professor Kaldor as its economic adviser. Harold Wilson himself was briefly intrigued by the idea of abolishing income tax. In technical *terms, it would certainly be easier to* achieve now than it would have been then. A high and rising proportion of modern expenditure is electronically recorded. There are a number of *different ways in which the principle* of taxing spending but not taxing saving could be implemented.

Such a change would make it easier to meet the welfare funding crisis of the next century. There will in any case have to be a return to individuals making the primary provision for their own retirement. The State would continue to provide pensions for those who had not been able to save; main finance for retirement would have to be found, as it was everywhere before 1939, out of the lifetime savings of the pensioners themselves. If income tax and all capital taxes were abolished, people would have a new opportunity to save for themselves. At the same time the total welfare burden on public expenditure could be reduced.

The abolition of income and capital taxes sounds like an extreme proposition that may frighten conventionally minded people until shortly before abolition becomes universal. The advantages however are overwhelming. Abolition would restore freedom to people to plan their own lives; if they valued high savings, they would pay no tax on the money they did not spend. It would remove any temptation to take funds offshore; Britain would become a tax haven for the British, as we already are for foreigners. It would encourage investment — one of the objectives shared by the Government and the Opposition. It would raise actual saving rates, perhaps even to Hong Kong levels. It would reduce inflation, lower interest rates, and strengthen the pound. It would increase the sustainable rate of economic growth. It would help to rebuild a prosperous British middle class with independent financial assets. It would reduce the pressure on the budget for high welfare expenditures. It would even help to solve the problem of short-termism in the City. Private shareholders have always been more loyal with their own money than institutional shareholders are with other people's.

From the political point of view, the great appeal of abolishing income tax would be that it would restore power to the people, away from the State. Income tax may be a tyranny which has by now become only too familiar, but it is a tyranny for all that. Expenditure taxes are progressive — the rich spend more, so they automatically pay more tax. A state duty is inevitably a tax on savings, and is almost always a double tax on money which has paid tax at least once already.

In the information age many *people are enjoying a new freedom of* choice about their place of work, and therefore about their place of taxation. It has been calculated that more than half of all high earners in the United States could work abroad without loss of income. During the 20th century, the modern State has grossly abused the taxpayer, often taking, one way or another, between 50 and 80 per cent of a lifetime's earnings. The abolition of income and capital taxes may now be the only way to persuade the taxpayer to remain in residence, to persuade the cow still to give her milk.

Senator Lugar's proposal helps to begin a debate which may last for a generation. In 1979 very few people foresaw that privatisation would start in Britain and be followed worldwide. The abolition of taxes on income and capital may similarly start in one country, may prove extraordinarily popular, and may become almost universal in practice. I hope Britain will be well ahead in the abolition queue, because the destruction of income tax will be one of the conditions of creating national prosperity in the 21st century.

Safe keeping

THE BOWHILL estate in Selkirk, home of the Duke of Buccleuch, has sold his family's most ancient castle, Kirkhope Tower at Ettridge Bridge. The tower dates back to the 14th century and has been bought for more than £250,000 by a local preservation trust.

The castle has been derelict for decades and has struggled against all manner of ills. Kirkhope was built by members of the clan of Scott and was burnt in the 1550s by *soldiers in Henry VIII's army.*

The Duke of Buccleuch is Britain's largest individual landowner and head of the clan of Scott — his name is Walter Francis John Montagu Douglas Scott. Yesterday he refused to discuss the sale. But his forebears who built the rough stone tower, which stands some 800 metres high on a hill dominating a valley at Ettrick Bridge, were of bandit stock.

- Locals say that Sir David Steel, MP for Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale, who bought Oakwood Castle from the estate five years ago, had his eyes on Kirkhope Tower as well. But the Kirkhope Castle Preservation Trust beat him to it. "This is one of the finest buildings of its type," said a member of the trust. "It has been in the Scott clan for probably 600 years and if the English army comes again we will be ready this time."

● *At least someone in BT has a sense of humour. The new code for Russia from April 16 will be 007.*

Male order

VIRAGO, the publishing house for women writers founded by Carmen Callil in 1973 with an all-female staff, this week signed up the first of a select group of male authors. Roy Porter, Professor of Medical History at the Wellcome Institute, and an expert on the sexual history and habits of the British, has been contracted to write a book with co-author Sarah Dunant called *The Age of Anxiety*, which will address people's fears as the millennium approaches.

"This will be the first time we will publish a man's views on a subject," explains Lennie Goodings, director at Virago.

Paranormal

ROMANCE has emerged once again from the battles in Bosnia. Chelsea Renton, daughter of the former Chief Whip Tim Renton, who has been working in camps for Croatian refugees, has become engaged to a British soldier she met in Bihac.

She will marry Mark Etherington, a former major in The Parachute Regiment, who is now working for the EU Monitoring Mission. The couple will take their vows in Renton's Mid Sussex constituency at the local Norman church. "Mark is very keen on paragliding," says the MP. "But this is going to be a traditional wedding. We're not going to have any paragliders."

Out of kilter

LIAM NEESON, star of the film *Rob Roy* which opens tonight in New York, will be cutting a sartorial dash at the premiere. He has commissioned the international fashion designer Donna Karan to make him a kilt of the Ancient Forbes tartan (light green and black) at a cost of £2,000.



Chelsea Renton: no flying

This is a pity, say experts, who claim he would have been fully entitled to wear Rob Roy's MacGregor tartan. The name Neeson in Scotland dates back 500 years, being allied to Neish and MacNeish, both of which have alliegance to the clan of MacGregor.

● *Cheating features large in this year's* Wisden Cricketers' Almanack *published today. Back in the 1950s, hair unguents were the trick of the trade, suggests the former fast bowler Frank "Typhoon" Tyson. "Brylcreem and hair oil would find their way onto the ball," he recalls. "Of course it was no bloody use to me. I had no hair to put it on even then."*

Novel friend

AFRICA'S lion of a novelist, Wilbur Smith, travelled to Britain the other day on Concorde to publicise *The Seventh Scroll*, his new epic. At the launch party in Harrods, he said he sat next to a passenger who spotted him reading one of his own first editions. "I see you're reading Wilbur Smith. Are you a fan?" ventured the traveller.

The great white hunter flared his nostrils like an angry hippo and replied that he was, indeed, a fan. His tedious companion was encouraged: "I'm a great friend of Wilbur's and I could get you his autograph." Smith declined the offer and returned to his novel.

Fair cop

THE ONSLAUGHT over cuts to London hospital beds drove Virginia Bottomley to desperate measures yesterday. The Health Secretary swapped the black suit with black and white polka-dot blouse, which she favoured for her morning press conference, for a softer, green-grey suit with lemon paisley scarf for her enforced appearance at the dispatch box.

"When dealing with the press, she needed to look authoritative — that's why she chose black and white, like policemen, vicars and nuns," says Liz Baker, an image consultant with Color Me Beautiful. "But the softer colours she picked for the Commons indicate that she was prepared to negotiate and did not feel so threatened."





Before and after luncheon: Bottomley's sartorial U-turn

P-H-S

THE OFFICE MANAGERS

Radical policy requires the art of persuasion

Rarely has Virginia Bottomley looked as weak as she did yesterday. Senior Conservatives from the former Cabinet minister Peter Brooke to Sir Rhodes Boyson attacked the Health Secretary for announcing the closure of St Bartholomew's Hospital in a written Commons reply rather than at the dispatch box. Mr Brooke's claim that Mrs Bottomley lacked "moral courage" and had acted in a way not "wholly worthy of the traditions of our party" doubtless reflected the fact that Bart's is in his constituency. But it was also a warning to the Government from one of its oldest and most discreet hands that it is making a grave strategic mistake.

The precise nature of this mistake deserves careful analysis. Since the publication in 1992 of Sir Bernard Tomlinson's report on healthcare in London, it has been clear that the Government's rationalisation plan for hospitals in the capital is essentially sound. London has too many specialist services and not enough primary care. Waiting lists for routine hospital treatment are long, while specialist beds are often underused. London has twice the national average of single-handed GPs, many of whom want to leave practice in the city. The principle that resources should be shifted from specialist into primary services cannot be faulted.

Mrs Bottomley's failure has been political. Change which disrupts robust tradition needs careful salesmanship, particularly when it leads to the closure of an ancient institution such as Bart's. Yet the Health Secretary has failed to persuade the public that what she is doing is right. She exudes confidence without making others share her feelings. She has become a health-service manager first, a Cabinet Minister second — a perilous order of priority in so sensitive an area of policy.

At the same time yesterday, Michael Howard was humbled by a House of Lords ruling that he had acted wrongly by introducing a new criminal injuries compensation system without parliamentary approval. The timing was as much bad luck as bad judgment — particularly bad luck for the Prime Minister, whose reception in London was far hotter than that in Washington had been. The impression remains, however, of a government whose ministers are much exercised by administration, less concerned with larger issues.

In a democracy, radicalism must always be matched by an understanding of ordinary people's conservative anxieties. "People will not look forward to posterity," wrote Burke, "who never look backward to their ancestors." In less than half a century, the NHS has become a national institution. St Bartholomew's has an almost mystical significance for many Londoners. That does not not mean that either service or hospital should be exempt from change or that prospective reformers must curtail their ambitions. It does mean that change must be presented persuasively and address concerns which are nothing to do with resources, efficiency or organisation.

Peter Lilley, one of the most radical members of the Cabinet, has shown a keen awareness of these complexities in his reform of the social security system. Icons and taboos are there to be questioned; but the questioning must be deft and matched by careful consultation of those who will be affected. Mrs Bottomley should have realised that the closure of Bart's required a Commons statement as a mark of respect to the strength of feeling it has inspired. To slip the announcement out as she did suggested that she half-believed it was wrong. Radicals must have the courage of their convictions and the willingness to explain them to others. To do otherwise is to surrender claim both to office and to power.

THE KIEV LINCHPIN

Ukraine moves on: the EU should think beyond Chernobyl

In most countries, a parliamentary vote of no confidence in the Government would count as a crisis. In Ukraine, it counts as opportunity. No fairer political wind could have been given to the programme of economic reform announced this week by Leonid Kuchma, the country's President, than the 292-15 majority in favour of dismissing the Government that immediately preceded his landmark address.

In keeping with the looking-glass character of Ukrainian politics, Mr Kuchma owed this breakthrough to the fractious majority in the parliament which opposes the reforms he has already introduced. Reformers, seeing their opportunity, sided with the Opposition. Mr Kuchma had already sacked Vitali Masol, an opponent of reform, as Prime Minister; the vote enables him to get rid of the remaining diehards in his Cabinet and pick a team wholly in tune with his radical economic policies.

To the admiration and surprise of Westerners, Russians and increasing numbers of his own countrymen, Mr Kuchma has proved the kind of tough leader who is also a master of manoeuvre: he thrives on such Ukrainian paradoxes. When he was elected nine months ago, his Communist supporters expected him to revive the command economy; his Crimean supporters saw in him a champion of reunification with Russia; his opponents included 90 per cent of western Ukraine's nationalists. He has won broad support by confounding the expectations of all three groups.

Ukraine, described by Warren Christopher last week as "the linchpin of European security", is no longer the danger that it was a year ago. Mr Kuchma has won over Ukraine's nationalists by his firm suppression of militant separatism in Crimea: the region retains a certain degree of autonomy, but its "independence" constitution was annulled by Kiev last month. This, however, was politically possible only because Mr Kuchma has carefully cultivated Moscow. The dangerous confrontation over the Black Sea Fleet is close to resolution, and only Boris Yeltsin's repeated delay in visiting Kiev stands in the way of the formal signature of a friendship treaty.

Mr Kuchma has also earned the West's political support. He has pushed ratification of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty through parliament and stuck firmly to the timetable for transferring Ukraine's nuclear stockpile to Russia. Yesterday, Ukraine finally dropped its objections to the terms of the key Conventional Forces in Europe Treaty dealing with arms reductions.

He now needs the West's financial as well as political backing for his drive towards "a qualitatively new economic system". As he told the parliament this week, Mr Kuchma sees Ukraine's economic rebirth as "the overall unifying national idea". He is probably right, but only if ordinary Ukrainians start before long to feel the benefits of the "big bang" strategy for which — provided parliament passes the President's tough 1995 budget — he has obtained $1.8 billion of IMF backing.

The plan calls for the privatisation of around 8,000 enterprises, bankruptcy laws, an independent central bank and land reforms coupled with cuts in agricultural subsidies. Mr Kuchma bravely insists that to give in to "populist arguments and political interests" will kill Ukraine's chances of economic stabilisation. But he has promised carefully targeted support for the groups hardest-hit by reforms. That is necessary for social peace, but it means that on top of the IMF package, Ukraine needs around $900 million in Western aid.

America is keen to help, but the European Union — which is obsessed by getting Ukraine to close down Chernobyl — has been grudging. In London and Paris, ministers should ponder Mr Christopher's words. Ukraine's stability depends on Mr Kuchma's ability to demonstrate that political courage pays.

TRUST FOR THE TORTOISE

Britain's naturalists speak up for the Galapagos

A fierce fire, as dogged as it was deadly, raged on the Galapagos islands a year ago. Darwin's distant archipelago was aflame, threatening the habitat of his courteous and sweet-tempered tortoises. Yesterday, in a well-timed response, prominent British naturalists — including David Bellamy and Sir David Attenborough — gathered to set in motion the Galapagos Conservation Trust, dedicated to the protection of this unique shrine to our scientific temper.

Charles Darwin, who shook Victorian England more deeply than any other thinker, was the biological rationalist who changed forever man's perspective of himself and of his origins: the leavening he brought to our sense of the divine survives till today as perhaps the foremost example of intellectual liberation from tradition steeped in Genesis.

Darwin was born into "Jane Austen's England", as Janet Browne writes in her forthcoming biography, *Charles Darwin: Voyaging*, and his family "could have stepped straight out of the pages of *Emma*". Years later, driven by his muscular instincts and an eloquent curiosity, he journeyed to the Galapagos islands. There, he came upon his laboratory, and wrote that "these islands appear paradises for the whole family of Reptiles". The black lava rocks on the beach were frequented by "imps of darkness" — clumsy lizards "as black as the porous rocks over which they crawl".

Our poetry today is reserved almost exclusively for the giant tortoise, whose docility is explained both by his lumbering bulk as well as by an artless unfamiliarity with predators. The unworldly creature is united in its inherited guilelessness with an array of birds and animals: dragon-like iguanas, blue-footed boobies, 13 kinds of finches and dazzlingly playful sea-lions. But their world is now threatened — and has been so for many years — by man, tourist and settler alike.

The aim of the Galapagos Conservation Trust is to ensure that we do not squander the wealth of this insular treasure trove: to this end, it will have to work in tandem with the local administration. It is not easy to reconcile the preservation of a fragile environment with the needs of local people to make a living, and the understandable desire of Ecuador's politicians to exploit the islands' tourist potential. The Trust, we must hope, will find a sensitive ally in the Government that has control over this unique landmark in the world's intellectual history.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Tax cuts and economic growth

From Mr Jonathan Aitken, Chief Secretary to the Treasury

Sir, Gordon Brown's article, "We need investment, not hollow tax cuts" (April 5), illustrates two fundamental fallacies that typify Labour thinking. First, that UK investment performance lags seriously behind that of our competitors; secondly, that tax cuts are incompatible with investment. Mr Brown is wrong on both counts.

Since 1980, business investment in the UK has on average accounted for a broadly similar proportion of GDP to that in other G7 countries. Moreover, total fixed investment since 1980 has grown faster in the UK than in any other major European country and that gross has almost matched that of the US and Canada. This is in stark contrast with the 1970s, when the UK was firmly at the bottom of the G7 investment growth league.

Mr Brown also distorts the reality of the present recovery. Total investment in plant and machinery has risen by 7 per cent over the past year, and in manufacturing it has risen by 10 per cent.

These figures demonstrate that British industry is investing strongly, as it judges necessary, now that corporate balance sheets have been restored to health. Business investment — not least inward investment from overseas — is being encouraged by the lowest main corporation tax rate in Europe.

Mr Brown has underestimated our national investment in education and training. A record 73 per cent of 16-year-olds are now in full-time education, compared with 42 per cent in 1980; the proportion of young people entering higher education has risen from one in eight in 1979 to about one in three today; and the proportion of 17-year-olds achieving two or more A levels has doubled to 28 per cent.

In 1995-96 the Government will offer 1½ million places on employment and training programmes to help the jobless. Furthermore, after the last Budget, more adults will find jobs through reformed training-for-work schemes and the number of young people achieving qualifications at NVQ (national vocational qualification) level 3 and above will more than double by 1997-98.

These facts suggest that Mr Brown's gloomy assertions are not supported by the evidence. The British economy is now moving ahead steadily across a broad and virtuous front of low inflation, record exports, rising investment, falling unemployment and steady growth.

Tax cuts, when they come, will be prudent and will benefit rather than harm investment and growth. But who would place a bet that they will ever feature on Mr Brown's interventionist agenda?

Yours sincerely,
JONATHAN AITKEN,
Treasury Chambers,
Parliament Street, SW1.
April 5.

From Mr Maurice Fitzpatrick

Sir, Recent reports suggest that the Government may be planning a phased reduction in the basic rate of income tax, from its current level of 25p in the £1 to 20p by tax year 1998-99. It has been suggested that this would involve a cut of 1p in 1996-97, 2p in 1997-98 and a final 2p cut in 1998-99.

Whilst I would not wish to comment on what action Government should take on taxes, readers may find the following figures helpful to put the issue in context.

The cost of the tax reductions mentioned above would be around £18 billion for the three years 1996-97 to 1998-99, and £10 billion per annum thereafter.

According to the November 29, 1994, Budget Red Book the Government is already proposing to incur further borrowings of £19 billion in the years 1996-97 to 1998-99. The £18 billion cost of the proposed tax cuts has *not* been taken into account.

Given sufficient political will, any Government can of course cut taxes. But in this case, it appears that the Government will have to borrow the money to do so.

Yours faithfully,
M. C. FITZPATRICK
(Senior Tax Consultant),
Chantrey Vellacott,
Russell Square House,
10-12 Russell Square, WC1.
April 4.

From Mrs Jean Richardson

Sir, Why does the Government persist in its belief that the juiciest carrot to offer the electorate is reduced taxation?

Most of the unemployed would welcome the opportunity to pay tax at all; the majority of wage-earners would, I believe, accept a small increase in taxation in return for improved public services, especially in education and the NHS; and many of the elderly retired would be prepared to make some adjustments in their budgeting in order to restore the home-help service.

Perhaps the "feel-good" factor has to be paid for.

Yours faithfully,
JEAN RICHARDSON,
Benisons,
38 Kings Road,
Barnet, Hertfordshire.
April 4.

Execution in Georgia

From Mr Anthony Verduyn

Sir, Mr Major may have thought deeply about the plight of Mrs Ingram, whose son awaits his impending execution in Georgia (report, April 4), but perhaps he has not thought deeply enough.

On November 2, 1993, a specially constituted seven-member judicial committee of the Privy Council — comprised of Lords Griffiths, Lane, Ackner, Goff, Lowry, Slynn and Woolf — considered delays in execution in Jamaica (*Earl Pratt and Another v The Attorney General of Jamaica and Another* [1993] *3 WLR 995; Times* law report, November 4, 1993).

Two points that were made then seem particularly pertinent here: firstly, that there were "strong grounds for believing" that any delay of more than five years after sentence constitutes "inhuman and degrading punishment" (the delay for Mr Ingram is 12 years), and if such delay is attributable to the appellant system then it is the system that is at fault and not the prisoner for using it.

Since our highest judges have commented upon the evil of delays (if not yet the evil of execution) then why can't our Prime Minister pass their erudition on? Perhaps he should save his regrets for things it is too late to put right.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY VERDUYN,
Priory Chambers, 2 Fountain Court,
Steelhouse Lane, Birmingham, 4.

Words perfect

From Mr Derek Coupland

Sir, When is a scrap metal dealer not a scrap metal dealer (letters, March 20, 24, 28, 31, April 3)? Read on:

For the purposes of this Act a person carries on *business as a scrap metal dealer if he* carries on a business which consists wholly or partly of buying and selling scrap metal whether the scrap metal sold is in the form in which it was bought or otherwise, other than a business in the course of which scrap metal is not bought except as materials for the manufacture of other articles and is not sold except as a by product of such manufacture or as surplus materials bought but not required for such manufacture: and "scrap metal dealer" (where the expression is used in this Act otherwise than in reference to carrying on business as a scrap metal dealer) means a person who (in accordance with the preceding provisions of this sub-section) carries on business as a scrap metal dealer.

The above is the interpretation clause in the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 1964. Try explaining it to a council committee.

Yours faithfully,
W. D. COUPLAND,
5a Holbeck Road,
Scarborough, North Yorkshire.

From the Director-General of the Historic Houses Association

Sir, If you are looking for elegance and pithiness in the tax legislation, how about the following from section 1 of the Capital Transfer Tax Act of 1984: "Capital Transfer Tax shall be charged on the value transferred by a chargeable transfer"?

Yours faithfully,
TERRY EMPSON,
Director-General,
Historic Houses Association,
2 Chester Street, SW1.
April 4.

Sports letters, page 39

Promotions at Oxford

From Professor Averil Cameron, FBA, Warden of Keble College, Oxford

Sir, I must take issue with the article by my friend the Master of Pembroke College ("The end of Oxford as we know it", April 1) and its somewhat alarmist message as to the future of undergraduate teaching at Oxford.

The promotions proposal recently passed was specifically designed so that it would cause the least possible threat to undergraduate teaching. As a proposal it is far from ideal (and the proportion of 80 per cent of university teachers likely to achieve the grades of reader or professor is no more than a highly unlikely figure plucked from the air).

Yet at present Oxford has virtually no promotions policy whatever. As long ago as 1907 Lord Curzon, as Chancellor, saw the awkward dichotomy between college tutors and university professors, but was unable to bring about reform.

Every other university in the UK is now aiming at excellence in both teaching and research, and Oxford can be no exception. The Master of Pembroke believes that Oxford cannot compete with the great American and continental universities. Of course it can, and it already does.

But there is no reason why it must also adopt their modes of teaching for first degrees, and that is far from being the necessary consequence of this rather modest proposal.

Yours faithfully,
AVERIL CAMERON,
Warden, Keble College, Oxford.
April 1.

Lottery benefits

From Lieutenant-Colonel F. R. Howell

Sir, Our local "Lifeboat Saturday" last week saw another volunteer collector and me sharing our post outside the high street newsagent and sub-post office expecting, as usual, our "takings" to be mainly dependent on the weather.

Not a bit of it. We had forgotten about the National Lottery terminal now in the shop. As the day wore on more and more people arrived to buy their tickets and some of them, while waiting in the long queue, noticed us and made a contribution.

So the National Lottery can help as well as hinder charity. We collected about 10 per cent more than usual this year.

Yours sincerely,
RAY HOWELL,
New Mile House, Ascot, Berkshire.
April 1.

'Panorama' affair

From Mr Richard Ayre

Sir, The omission of one crucial detail from Andrew Pierce's seemingly informed account of my role in the *Panorama* affair (report, April 5) casts some doubt on the quality of his research. Throughout the period he refers to I was incommunicado touring the remains of the Mayan civilisation on the Yucatan peninsula. While these bear a passing resemblance to Broadcasting House they are some distance apart.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD AYRE
(Controller, Editorial Policy),
British Broadcasting Corporation,
Broadcasting House, W1.
April 5.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

Threat to textbooks for Third World

From the President, Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

Sir, The nation's leaders (and others) are attempting to achieve a higher profile for Britain, especially in the developing world ("Britain in the World" conference — reports, March 30).

Subsidised distribution of British textbooks, in several major academic disciplines, to many of the world's developing countries has operated for some 35 years under the Educational Low-priced Books Scheme (ELBS). The scheme currently costs £1.5 million a year, from the Overseas Development Administration (ODA) budget.

It has recently come to my attention that Baroness Chalker, as a result of reading a recent ODA internal report, proposes to wind up this excellent scheme within the next two years. Expert advisers have not been consulted. This decision seems to relate in part at least to the fact that targeting of books has not been entirely towards the poorest students in the poorest countries (for example, medical personnel in India are not considered aid-worthy); therefore, the scheme is perceived not to meet the ODA's underlying objectives.

Numerous former medical (and other) students, both undergraduate and post-graduate, in developing countries are Fellows of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene; there are some 3,500 worldwide. Cessation of this excellent scheme would be highly injurious to their interests and objectives; many owe their professional status to ELBS.

Inevitably, it is the health of vast numbers of individuals which will ultimately suffer. Phasing out of ELBS would be an exceedingly regrettable line of action which would severely damage Britain's standing abroad. Is it too late to ask the Government to reconsider this unfortunate proposal, and keep the valuable and well established ELBS in operation? It is surely one of our greatest exports.

Yours faithfully,
G. C. COOK,
President,
Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene,
Manson House,
26 Portland Place, W1.
April 4.

'English' English

From Dr Roger Bowers

Sir, Professor Haseler (letter, March 29) perpetuates the myth of a clash between, in the red corner, American English and American culture; and, in the green, "English English" and British culture. But for the majority of users of English around the world, it is not like that.

English is learned not because it is laden with either culture but because it is the language of access (to commerce, technology, research, etc) and of advancement (to a job, a better job, a professional position). By and large people will learn English by whatever means and in whatever form they can get it. Overwhelmingly the forms they will hear through the satellite media are American, but that is by no means universally the case.

The English 2000 initiative launched by the Prince of Wales (report, March 24), is not an attempt to stem the tide of Americanisation or to fly the flag for "our" language. However, it unashamedly seeks to promote British goods and services — the books and examinations, teaching and training, consultancy and research that add up to a huge visible and invisible export business for the English language.

Precisely because it is not now "our" language, we must work to encourage the view that if you want to learn English you should buy British.

Yours truly,
ROGER BOWERS
(Assistant Director-General),
The British Council,
10 Spring Gardens, SW1.

Russian view of 'Ring'

From Professor Emeritus Edward Garden

Sir, As a Tchaikovsky scholar, I think that, before totally condemning Richard Jones's production of *Siegfried* at Covent Garden, your reviewer (March 29) and Sir Hardy Amies (letter, April 3) should read the Russian composer's withering comments on the production both of the first performance of the complete *Ring* at Bayreuth in 1876, and of subsequent performances.

In particular, in his correspondence with Nadezhda von Meck he states that the Ride of the Valkyries on the stage was ridiculous, being much better in concert performance. So, Wagner's original productions were by no means universally admired.

I might add that Tchaikovsky purported not to admire Wagner's music, but on his return to Russia in 1876 he composed his orchestral piece *Francesca da Rimini*, which is certainly influenced by the German composer.

Yours faithfully,
EDWARD GARDEN,
Balchraggan Farm House,
Kirkhill,
Inverness.
April 3.

'Loopy' lairds

From the Macneil of Barra

Sir, I am in wholehearted agreement with Magnus Linklater ("The loopy lairds of the isles", March 31) that what the Hebrides needs is "consistency of ownership, and an appreciation of the fragile nature of an island economy", and a recognition that the Hebrideans, not outsiders, virtually always know what is best for them and their islands.

Mr Linklater's paragraph on myself could have given the impression that I had arrived only recently from America to claim my inheritance. But the estate of Barra has been in my family now since 1937, I have been joint proprietor of the estate since 1952, and sole proprietor since 1970.

The Macneils of Barra have thus provided Barra with precisely the consistency of ownership Mr Linklater argues for, and the estate of Barra is administered on the principle he espouses: supporting the community in its prevailing views.

Yours sincerely,
MACNEIL of BARRA,
5/8 Fountainhall Court,
Fountainhall Road,
Edinburgh 9.
April 2.

Old acquaintance

From Mr Philip Watts

Sir, I have before me the group photograph taken in July 1942 of some 700-800 pupils and staff of Bristol Grammar School including my 11-year-old self.

Absent on war service at the time was my French teacher and your correspondent Mr Eric Dehn, whose letter which you published on April 19 last year led to a renewal of our acquaintanceship after a gap of 43½ years (letters, March 31, April 5).

Notwithstanding the scant contact between myself and other progeny of my *alma mater* in the interval, I can still instantaneously link about 180 names to faces. Is this a matter for self-congratulation or rather, as I suspect, a symptom of approaching senility?

Yours sincerely,
PHILIP WATTS,
69 Broadway, Lincoln.

From Mrs Rosemary ap Rees

Sir, The day after you published a letter from my husband in February he received a letter from an old friend he had not seen since 1955, after a Jesus College cricket tour in Sussex. The following day brought another letter which he passed on to me as it was from my half-brother, last seen in 1961, with whom we had long lost touch. It has been delightful to meet again after all these years and we all vow to keep in contact in future.

A few weeks later another letter arrived from Belorussia, Minsk in particular, from a Mr Smirnov, asking my husband to clarify the meaning of our surname.

Yours sincerely,
ROSEMARY ap REES,
Cranhill House, Piers Road,
West Cranmore, Somerset.
April 3.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
April 5: The Princess Royal, Patron, SENSE — the National Deafblind and Rubella Association, this morning attended an education conference for deafblind children at the Birmingham Metropole Hotel and Conference Centre, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for West Midlands (Mr Robert Taylor).

The Hon Mrs Legge-Bourke was in attendance.

Her Royal Highness, President, The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, this afternoon opened the Lincolnshire Carers Centre, 1 Rauceby Terrace, Orchard Street, Lincoln, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Lincolnshire (Mrs Robert Cracroft-Eley).

The Princess Royal, President, Royal Yachting Association, later attended a meeting of the Council at the Royal Thames Yacht Club, 60 Knightsbridge, London, SW1.

Her Royal Highness this evening received the Galen Medal Award of the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries of London and attended a Dinner at Apothecaries' Hall, Black Friars Lane, London EC4.

Mrs Timothy Holderness-Roddam was in attendance.

WINDSOR CASTLE
April 5: The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron, Outward Bound Trust, this afternoon attended an Outward Bound Seminar for Business and Commerce at the Wentworth Club, Virginia Water, Surrey.

Major Charles Richards was in attendance.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
April 5: The Prince of Wales this afternoon commenced a two day seminar to discuss agriculture and the environment.

YORK HOUSE, ST JAMES'S PALACE
April 5: The Duchess of Kent, Patron, this evening attended a dinner celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the "Not Forgotten" Association, the House of Lords, Westminster, London SW1.

Mrs Peter Troughton was in attendance.

Lord Frederick Windsor is 16 years old today.

Birthdays today

Mr Franta Belsky, sculptor, 74; Sir Paul Beresford, MP, 49; Miss Joan Bernard, former principal, Trevelyan College, Durham, 77; Mr Rodney Bickerstaffe, trade unionist, 50; Mr Rory Bremner, impressionist, 34; Mrs Anne Campbell, MP, 55; Miss Joan Carlyle, soprano, 64; Mr Bernard Carter, painter and etcher, 75; Mr Harry Conroy, former trade unionist, 52; Mr Roger Cook, investigative journalist and broadcaster, 52; Mr Paul Daniels, magician, 57; Admiral Sir Desmond Dreyer, 85; Mr Julian Faber, former chairman, Willis Faber, 78; Mr Willis Hall, writer, 66; Professor David Ingram, former vice-chancellor, University of Kent at Canterbury, 68; Mr Justice Knox, 70; the Duke of Montrose, 60; Lord Moore of Wolvercote, 74; the Rev Ian Paisley, MP, MEP, 69; Miss Felicity Palmer, mezzo-soprano, 51; Mr André Previn, conductor, 66; Sir Marcus Worsley, Lord Lieutenant of North Yorkshire, 70.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, will name the P&O cruise ship *Oriana* at Southampton Docks at 11.30.

The Princess Royal, on behalf of the Queen, will take the parade at Lord High Admiral's Divisions at Britannia Royal Naval College Dartmouth at 10.30.

The Duke of Kent, as President-in-Chief of the British Racing Drivers' Club, will open the new pits complex and medical centre at Silverstone Circuit, Northamptonshire, at 10.30; and, as Royal Fellow, will attend a Bakerian lecture at the Royal Society at 5.

Princess Alexandra, as Patron of the 17th World Congress of the International Union of Angiology, will attend a gala dinner at Grosvenor House at 7.40.

FDR and The Times

After the death of Franklin Delano Roosevelt on April 12, 1945, *The Times* and the Pilgrims Society worked to raise money for his statue in Grosvenor Square. Five shillings was the maximum contribution allowed and a commemorative *Times* booklet was given to each person who donated that sum. Neither the Pilgrims Society nor *The Times* now has a copy of this booklet. As the 50th anniversary of Roosevelt's death approaches, the Editor would be grateful to hear from any reader who has better preserved this small piece of our past.

People and Places

Cecil Beaton, his life and work, an illustrated lecture, will be delivered by Mr Hugo Vickers at Sotheby's, New Bond Street, on Wednesday, April 19, at a People and Places soirée in aid of the Royal Marsden Hospital's Children's appeal. Tickets are available from Mrs Iris Banham-Lee. Telephone 0225-318547.

Presentation

HM Government
Mr Richard Needham, Minister for Trade, presided at a presentation given by Her Majesty's Government yesterday at the Conference Forum, London, E1, to mark the National Languages for Export Awards 1995.



Patricia O'Connor of Sotheby's polishes a royal Hanoverian silver-gilt ewer, one of the Luton Hoo pieces to be sold

Treasures of Luton Hoo to be sold

By Dalya Alberge
CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN's heritage crumbled a little more yesterday when another stately home owner announced the sale of some of the family silver to secure the estate's future.

This time the collection is from Luton Hoo, in Bedfordshire, one of England's grandest. Those being offered for sale are known as some of the finest pieces in the house. They have been on public display in the state rooms.

Extravagant 1700s royal silver and an exquisite 1810 mahogany globe-shaped secretaire are among 250 works, expected to reach about £4 million and to find new homes in America and on the Continent.

The sale is being conducted by the executors of the estate of a godson of the Duke of Edinburgh, Nicholas Phillips, who was found dead in a fume-filled car in 1991. His widow, Lucy, is believed to be selling off the works to meet debts of some £20 million.

Many of the treasures were amassed by his grandfather, the industrialist Sir Julius Wernher. Luton Hoo became the Wernher family seat in 1903. Sir Julius was a diamond magnate and philanthropist, described in 1912 by *The Times* as "one of the greatest financial geniuses of our time"; as a collector, with an eye for Rembrandt and Rubens, he has been compared with Frick and Mellon. The 100-room house, with its 4,000-acre Capability Brown gardens, was built by Robert Adams in the 18th-century, but was twice gutted by fire. It was used as a set for the film *Four Weddings And A Funeral*.

Both the mansion and its famous art collection, belonging to the Luton Hoo Foundation, will remain open to the public. Many of the items in the sale are from the family's private apartments.

On offer are a pair of royal Hanoverian silver-gilt ewers and dishes of great quality. They are estimated at up to £1 million. A bedroom suite that used to furnish the royal suite at Luton Hoo is valued at up to £150,000.

A marquetry cabinet, with inlay inspired by Boucher, comparable to a piece in the Metropolitan Museum, New York, is expected to fetch about £80,000.

The auction takes place at Sotheby's on May 24 and 25.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Sir William Temple, statesman, London, 1628; James Mill, utilitarian philosopher, Logieport, 1773; Alexander Herzen, writer and socialist, Moscow, 1812; Harry Houdini, escapologist, Appleton, Wisconsin, 1874.
DEATHS: Raphael, painter, Rome, 1520; Albrecht Dürer, painter, Nuremberg, 1528; Sir Francis Walsingham, statesman, London, 1590; Igor Stravinsky, composer, New York, 1971.
Robert Peary arrived at the North Pole, 1909.
The United States declared war on Germany, 1917.

Lecture

Barbers' Company
Mr Peter Clayton delivered the 18th Sir Lionel Denny lecture, sponsored by the Barbers' Company, at the Museum of London last night. Later, Mr Ronald Simmons, Master, presided, assisted by the Wardens, at a supper held at Barber Surgeons' Hall.

The literacy of ancient women is reclaimed

By Philip Howard

THE classicists in conference at St Andrews continue to reinvent our past. The new generation of women scholars are reclaiming ground for their ancient grandmothers.

Tamar Hodos, an American at Keble College, Oxford, argued that Juno could read quite as well as Jupiter. Until now it had been assumed that the first readers were upper-class men and that women of the Iron Age were illiterate as well as supine and downtrodden. Ms Hodos has found evidence from inscribed objects in tombs and from vase paintings that women were reading and writing just as early as men. Why inscribe "good at spinning" or "he gave it to his mother as a gift" if the deceased loved lady could not read?

The evidence suggests that not only the aristocrats, but slaves, bureaucrats, oral poets and women were up there among the first readers.

The most famous Greek vase painting — by an artist called Exekias on an amphora in the Vatican showing Ajax and Achilles playing some board game — was given a new interpretation by Dr Elizabeth Moignard, of Glasgow University.

She sees Exekias as painting a sequence of vases about Ajax, who had a contemporary cult at Athens. They all show the portrait of a loser. Ajax is painted as the man who loses his game, the friend to whom he lost the game and whose body he'll carry off the battlefield, his self-esteem, his honour, his sanity, and finally his life. They are the first tragic strip cartoon.

Memorial service

Sir Bernard Caulfield, QC
The Lord Chancellor was represented by Mr Mark Ormerod at a service of thanksgiving for the life of Sir Bernard Caulfield, QC, held on Tuesday in Lincoln's Inn Chapel. Canon William Norman officiated, assisted by Father Edward Corbould, OSB. The Treasurer of Lincoln's Inn read the lesson and Mr Justice Owen gave an address.

The Lord Chief Justice, the President of the Family Division and the Treasurer of the Middle Temple attended. Among those present were:

Mr B John Caulfield, Mr Edward Caulfield and Mr Michael Caulfield (sons), Mr and Mrs Andrew Chalk (son-in-law and daughter), Mrs B McConnell (sister), Mrs E Caulfield (sister-in-law), Mr John Herbert (brother-in-law), Mr and Mrs John Livesey, Mr Bernard Livesey, QC, and Mrs Livesey, Miss Kate Livesey, Mrs Nicholas Reed, Mr Edward Reed, Miss Gabrielle Reed, Mr Joseph Reed, Bernard Reed, Mr and Mrs Ian Chalk, Mr and Mrs Michael Chalk, Mr David Chalk, Mr John Schofield and other members of the family.

Lady Trafford, Lord and Lady Oliver of Aylmerton, Lord Brightman, Lord Justice Simon Brown, Lord Justice Kennedy, Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Balcombe, Lord Justice and Lady Glidewell, Lord Justice and Lady Rose, Lord Justice Millett, Lord Justice and Lady Russell, Lord Justice Peter Gibson, Lord Justice Morritt, Sir Robert Megarry, QC, Sir Michael Kerr, QC, and Lady Kerr, Sir Christopher Slade, QC, and Lady Slade, Sir Edward Eveleigh, QC, Lord Justice Otton, Lady Jane Howard, the Hon Mark Trafford, Mr Justice French, Sir Irvine Goulding, Mr Justice and Lady Kay, Sir Mervyn and Lady Davies, Sir Jean-Pierre Warner, QC, Mr Justice Lightman, Sir Ralph and Lady Kilner Brown, Sir Kenneth Jupp, QC, and Lady Jupp, Sir Michael Davies, QC, and Lady Davies, Sir Charles Fletcher-Cooke, QC, Mr Justice Drake, Mr Justice Tucker, Mr Justice Blofeld, Mr Justice Ferris, Sir John Wood, QC, Sir Haydn Tudor Evans, QC, Mr Justice Rimer, Mr Justice Wright, Mr Justice McCullough, Judge Machin, QC, Judge Roger Cooke, Judge Charles Harris, QC, His Honour Peter Macnair, Judge Esyr Lewis, QC, Judge Dunn, QC, Judge Julian Hall, Judge Patricia Coles, Judge Duckworth (representing the Preston group of judges).

The Common Serjeant of the City of London, Mr W Percy Grieve, QC, Mr Brian Leveson, QC, Mr John Milmo, QC, Mr Richard Hacker, QC, Mr George Carman, QC, Mr John Mowbray, QC, Mr Donald Keating, QC, Mr Raymond Walker, QC, Mr Crawford Lindsay, QC, Mr Gerald Moriarty, QC, and Mrs Moriarty, Mr John Samuels, QC, Mr Nigel Gilmour, QC, Mr John Deby, QC, Mrs Helen Grindrod, QC, Mr Michael Corkery, QC, Mr Leolin Price, QC, Miss Carol Ellis, QC (Weekly Law Reports), Mr Rodney Klevan, QC (leader, Northern Circuit), Mr James Hunt, QC (deputy leader, Midland and Oxford Circuit), Mr Norman Cox, Mr David Grant, Mr I Romer, Mrs Margaret Williams, Mr Norman Davies, Mr and Mrs Ray Morris, Mr Peter Robinson, Mrs Jeremy Elwes, Father Kevin Clark and Mr E W H Christie, Mr Harry Boggis-Rolfe, Mr Peter Hall, and Mrs Amaryllis Bigley.

Mr Charles D. Laborde
A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr Charles Laborde, OH, a Master at Harrow from 1946 to 1977, will be held in the Harrow School Chapel on Saturday, May 20, at 2.30pm.

School news

Durham School
The following awards have been made at Durham School (to commence in September 1995).
Awards at 13
King's Scholarship: R W Emmerson, Chorister School, Durham.
Exhibitions: D M Burgess, Bow School, Durham; R D Ford, Bow School, Durham; S McLellan, Chorister School, Durham.
Music Scholarships: D M Burgess, Bow School, Durham; R W Emmerson, Chorister School, Durham.
Music Exhibition: A Couper, Chorister School, Durham.
Awards at 16
Burkitt Scholarships: J T Cragg-James, Queen Mary's School, Thirsk.
Burkitt Exhibitions: K J H Rowe, Durham High School; A M Everatt, Durham Johnston School; M E Morton, Queen Ethelburga's School, York.
Burkitt Music Scholarship: A K Hankey, Durham High School.
Music Scholarship: M Ellis, Hermitage School, Co Durham.
Music Exhibition: J T Cragg-James, Queen Mary's School, Thirsk.
Exhibitions at 11: J W E O'Brien, St Martin's Prep School, York.
Music Exhibition: T J Hughes, St Margaret's CE School, Durham.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr G.H. Barnes and Miss J.Y. Larroucau
The engagement is announced between Gerard Hugh, elder son of Mr and Mrs David Barnes, of Tockenham, Wiltshire, and Jane Yvonne, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Larroucau, of Stinchcombe, Gloucestershire.

Mr A.H. Bouchier and Miss K.S. Montgomerie
The engagement is announced between Alexander, son of Mr and Mrs John Bouchier, of Little Marcle, Herefordshire, and Katheryn, elder daughter of Captain Alexander Montgomerie of Southannan, of Perthshire, and Mrs Margaret Montgomerie, of Ayrshire.

Dr D.C. Chilvers and Miss R.H. Isaacs
The engagement is announced between David, son of the late Mr Peter Chilvers and of Mrs Ruth Chilvers, of Harleston, Norfolk, and Rebecca, only daughter of the Rev and Mrs John Isaacs, of Denver, Norfolk.

Mr J.J.R. McFarland and Señorita P.D. Rojas-Hernandez
The marriage will take place today in Madrid between Jonathan James Reid McFarland, formerly of Liverpool, and Polimnia Djama Rojas-Hernandez, of Lima, Peru. The couple are living in Madrid.

Mr T.A. de B. Wates and Miss A.C. Rogerson
The engagement is announced between Timothy, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Andrew Wates, of Henfold House, Surrey, and Annabel, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Mark Rogerson, of Cottesmore School, Sussex.

Luncheon

British Red Cross
Baroness Thatcher, OM, the Countess of Limerick, Mr Mike Whitlam and Mr John F. Gray were the speakers at a luncheon held yesterday at the Mirabelle Restaurant, Curzon Street, to mark the 125th birthday of the British Red Cross and to raise awareness of their humanitarian work in the United Kingdom and overseas.

Dinners

Field Marshal Lord Bramall, KG
The Duchess of Kent was the guest of honour at a dinner given by Field Marshal Lord Bramall, KG, last night at the House of Lords to mark the 75th anniversary year of the "Not Forgotten" Association. Among those present were:
Mr Raphael Djanogly and Mr Ronald Gerard (dinner patrons), Lady Bramall, Mrs Christie Painter, Mrs Ronald Gerard, General Sir John and Lady Mogg, General Sir Robert and Lady Ford, General Sir Brian Kenny, Major-General Sir Christopher and Lady Airy, Major-General P R and the Hon Mrs Leuchars, Sir Caxton and Lady Greig, Captain and Mrs J A R Swainson, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs David Martin, Mrs Peter Troughton, Mr and Mrs John Cullimore, Mr and Mrs Peter Prichard, Mr and Mrs Ernie Wise, Mr and Mrs Charlie Chester, Mr Davey Kaye, Mr Thomas Pendry, Mr and Mrs David Balls, Mr Michael Black, Mr and Mrs Jess Conrad, Mr and Mrs Roger Croft, Miss Caron Gardner, Mr and Mrs Norman Gerard, Mr and Mrs David Hedge, Mr and Mrs Clive Radley, Miss Julie Rogers, Mr and Mrs Ronald Sams and Mr and Mrs Ben Weedon.

Actuaries' Company
The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Lady Mayoress and the Sheriffs and their ladies, was a speaker at the annual dinner of the Actuaries' Company at the Mansion House last night. Mr J.J. Simon, Master, presided, assisted by Mr C.W.F. Low and Mr M.H. Field, Wardens.

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So make us know how few are our days, that our minds may learn wisdom.
Psalm 90 : 12 (REB)

BIRTHS

ASHWORTH - On 2nd April, to Tamsin (née Wheeler) and John, a son, Francis Thomas Edward, a brother for Millie.

ATKIN - On April 4th 1995 at the Wellington Hospital, to Mr & Mrs Douglas Atkin, a son, Peter Edward Atkin, 8lbs 11oz.

BURLING - On April 3rd at Queen Charlotte's, to Helen and Tony, a son, Rory Douglas, a brother for Marcus.

IRWIN - On 3rd April 1995, at home, to Johanna (née Kerly) and Andrew, a daughter, Annica MacGregor, a sister to Jessica, Amanda and Jennifer. Happy Birthday Amanda for today.

LOUPOS - On 4th April 1995, to Fiona (née Dickson) and Stephan, a daughter, Madelyn Tiffany.

PEARSON - On 4th April at St Thomas' Hospital, to Sarah (née Wills) and Dominic, a son, Thomas Edward.

SHINER - On 30th March, to Louisa (née Renton) and Stephen, a son, Sam, a brother for Barney.

TEMPLE-RICHARDS - On March 30th, to Virginia (née Scott) and Charlie, a son, Alec Thomas Leofric.

TWOSE - On April 3rd 1995, to Lucy (née Dyer) and Dominic, a daughter, Annabel Katharine, a sister for Olivia.

WAKEFIELD - On March 21st 1995, to Hilary and Kitty (née Sharpe), a daughter.

WATSON - On 15th March in Durban RSA to Lucy (née Thomas) and Gary our son Thomas Robert.

DEATHS

ADRIAN - On 4th April, after long illness, Richard, Professor the Lord Adrian, aged 67, physiologist and former Master of Pembroke College Cambridge. Funeral Service on Tuesday 11th April at 11 am in Pembroke College Chapel (for College and family), followed by burial at St Margaret's Church, Cley-next-the-Sea, Norfolk at 4 pm. Flowers, or donations for Pembroke Scholarship Fund, to Brian Warner Funeral Services, 4 Harsbel Court, Hartingdon Grove, CB1 4UB. A Memorial Service will be held later in Cambridge.

BEAR - On April 2nd, suddenly in hospital at Hastings, Henry Fairbrother Bear, H.A.C. Sadly missed by his many friends at Brede and Pells Wood. Funeral Service at Hastings Crematorium on Thursday April 13th at 12.30 pm. Flowers and enquiries to A.C. Towner Limited, funeral directors, 2 - 4 Norman Road, St Leonards-on-Sea, TN37 6NH. Tel: Hastings (01424) 436386.

BOEX - John Justin, C.G., Lt. Cdr. RNVR retd. 1915-1995. Much loved husband of Ruth and father of Nicholas, Simon, Peter and Henrietta, grandfather and great-grandfather. Died peacefully after a short illness on April 5th 1995. Private family funeral. Enquiries to (01326) 250646.

DAVIES - George Henry of the Barbican, London, on 5th April, peacefully. Funeral private. No flowers by request. Donations to Macmillan Nurses.

DIXON - On Monday April 3rd 1995, peacefully at The Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, Peter Graham aged 71, of London. Beloved brother of Elizabeth, Andrew and Deirdre. Private cremation. Service of Thanksgiving at the Church of St Mary, Bourne Street, London SW1, on Friday 21st April at 12 noon.

DOUGLAS - On 31st March, at Trinity Hospice, London, Brian Alexander, dearly loved son of Jean (New Zealand) and the late Val, much loved brother of Denis, Florence and Janet and special uncle of Christopher, Matthew, Robert, Glen and Sally. Funeral Service on Wednesday 12th April at Putney Vale Crematorium at 12.30 pm. Enquiries to Mears & Cotterill, 169 Merton Road, SW18 5EF, tel: (0181) 874-7698.

DUBOIS - On April 4th, peacefully at Ramley House Nursing Home, Lymington, Robin Hermon. Ever loving husband of Doreen. Devoted and adored father of Catherine, Sarah, Edward and Elizabeth. Service and burial at Beaulieu Abbey Church on Wednesday, April 12th, at 12 noon.

EVANS - Peacefully on April 4th, Jack, much loved father and grandfather. Thanksgiving Service at the Parish Church, Waltham St Lawrence, at 11 am on Tuesday 11th April. Family flowers only but donations, if desired, to The Childrens Society, Edward Rudolph House, Margery Street, London WC1X 0JL.

FLETCHER - On April 4th at Copped Hall, John Theodore Talbot, of Saltoun, aged 91. Funeral Service at Enfield Crematorium on Friday 7th April at 2.45 pm.

GILBERT - On 3rd April, Anthony, of Charlbury, Oxon., aged 79 years, most beloved husband of Ann and brother of John. Funeral Service at Shorthampton Church on Thursday 13th April at 3.30 pm. No flowers.

GRANT - On April 5th, peacefully at the Burwood Nursing Home, Broadstone, Poole, Audrey Elizabeth (Betty) aged 87 years. Widow of Patrick Grant, beloved mother of Bridget, Nigel and the late Simon, loving grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral Service at Poole Crematorium on Tuesday 11th April at 2.30 pm. to be followed by interment of ashes in Scotland at a later date. Family flowers only please to Albert Marsh Funeral Directors, St Michael's Road, Wareham, Dorset BH20 4OU.

GREEN - Thomas Leslie, suddenly but peacefully at home on April 4th, aged 73 years. Dearly beloved husband of Nell and father of Judith and John. Family funeral only by request.

ILEY - On 4th April 1995, Lottie aged 88 years, of Crosby, beloved wife for nearly 62 years of Henry and mother of Barbara and Peter. Service at Thornton Crematorium on Monday 10th April at 3 pm. No flowers please but, if desired, donations to Imperial Cancer Research Fund.

KORVIN - Peacefully on 4th April 1995, Helmut (Peter) Korvin F.R.C.S., aged 92 years, of Dorset. Funeral Service at Salisbury Crematorium on Tuesday 11th April at 2.20pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, for Alzheimer Research may be sent to Marsfield and Henstridge F/D, Melbury Abbas, Shaftesbury, Dorset SP7 0SU.

MACKENZIE - On 4th April, peacefully at Irvine Memorial Hospital, Pitlochry, Jessie Florence MacKenzie (née Ward), in her 90th year. Dearly beloved wife of Kenneth, mother to Kenneth and Yvonne and grandmother to Jessica and Alexander. Funeral Service at Perth Crematorium, Monday 10th April at 3.15 pm. Family flowers only. Donations in lieu to Parkinsons Disease Society Research, 22 Upper Woburn Place, London WC1H 0RA.

MALLESON - On April 3rd 1995, peacefully, Nancy Bertha Mary Sainte Croix (Betty), aged 87 years. Wife of the late Captain Rupert Malleson R.N. Funeral Service at Southampton Crematorium (East Chapel) on Tuesday 11th April at 2pm. Family flowers only, but donations, if desired to R.N.L.I. c/o Jno. Steel & Son, Chesil House, Chesil Street, Winchester (01962 844044).

NATTRASS - On 1st April, suddenly on the hills near Glyn Ceiriog, Timothy John of Warkworth and Banbury. Dearly loved husband of Janet, father of Sarah, Stephen and Clare. Thanksgiving Service at Warkworth Church on Monday 10th April at 2.30pm. Donations in his memory for the British Heart Foundation and Rhino Ark (the Kenyan Rhino Appeal) c/o J & M Humphris, 32 Albert Street, Banbury, OX16 8DG.

OWEN - On 4th April 1995 Margaret Fell Owen, of Steyning, passed away peacefully. Funeral 2 pm Wednesday 12th April St Andrew's Church, Steyning. No flowers please but donations, if desired, may be sent to the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council c/o Chalcraft F/D, Chequers Yard, Steyning, West Sussex.

PAYNE - Richard B.Sc(Hons) M.PUJA(B), C.Eng, M.I.C.E. on 4th April 1995 aged 42 years. Most loving and beloved husband of Catherine and Daddy of David, Caroline, Stephen and Alicia. He will be sadly missed by his parents, Ron and Barbara and brother and sister Chris and Alan, mother and father-in-law, sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, nieces and nephews and by all his friends and colleagues around the world. He lived his life to the full, is now at peace. Funeral Service at The Church of Our Lady, Lillington on Tuesday 11th April at 1 pm followed by interment at Leamington Cemetery. Family flowers only please, donations for The Radiotherapy Department, Walsgrave Hospital to W.G. Rathbone Funeral Directors, 30 Clarendon Avenue, Leamington Spa.

PELLATT - Shirley Mary, on 4th April peacefully at home. Service at St Peter's Church, Frimley, Tuesday 11th April 12 noon. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, to More Hall Convent, Randwick, Stroud, GL6 6EP.

SNOWMAN - Sallie, on April 4th, dearly beloved wife of Kenneth, will be sadly missed by her son Nicholas, Margo and Hector, Joyce and Charlotte, a large and loving family and countless friends. Enquiries to (0171) 493-1141.

TETLEY - On 1st April 1995, peacefully in hospital, Lady Patricia Maud, beloved mother of Alexander. Funeral private.

THOMPSON - Frances Edythe O'Hara - loving only daughter of the late Ethel and George O'Hara Thompson of St Mary's, Winchester and lately at Mid-Tyllybannocher, By Comrie, Perthshire. On 1st April aged 78. Funeral private in Somerset. No flowers please, but donations to R.A.F. Benevolent Fund, 67 Portland Place, London W1 and for the Army Benevolent Fund, Queens Gate, London SW7.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

DURHAM - A Thanksgiving Eucharist will be held for The Reverend John Francis Langton Durham on Monday 24th April 1995 at 12.15 pm at the Church of All Hallows by the Tower, Byward Street, London. All invited.

IN MEMORIAM — WAR

DODD - In proud and loving memory of Captain Ian Alastair Scott Dodd 6th Gurkha Rifles, a Chindit, killed in Burma, 6th April 1944.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

BROWN - Godfrey. A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of A.G.K. Brown, Olympic Athlete and former Headmaster of Worcester Royal Grammar School, will be held in Worcester Cathedral on Saturday, 29th April at 12 noon.

ANNIVERSARIES

MONKS - Judy and Brian of Yateley, today celebrate ten wonderful years. Deo Gloria.

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LEGAL NOTICES

INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
RULE 4.106(1)
BETA-PLUS LIMITED
IN CREDITORS VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Patrick Bernard Harrington, Licenced Insolvency Practitioner of Morison Stoneham, 6th Floor, 805 Salisbury House, 31 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 5SQ and Ian Franses, Licenced Insolvency Practitioner of Ian Franses Associates, Conduit House, 24 Conduit Place, London W2 1EP were appointed Joint Liquidators of the above-named company on the 28th March 1995.
All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their debts in writing to Mr Ian Franses at Conduit House, 24 Conduit Place, London W2 1EP.
I Franses - Joint Liquidator

LONDON & BISHOPSGATE HOLDINGS (NORTH AMERICA) LTD
(IN LIQUIDATION) NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 168 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that General Meetings of the Members and Creditors of the above-named company will be held at 1 Surrey Street, London, WC2R 2NT on 26 April 1995 at 11.00am and 11.30am respectively, to receive an account showing how the winding up of the company to date has been conducted, and its property disposed of, and to hear any explanation that may be furnished by the Liquidator. Any proxies necessary to entitle creditors to vote at the meeting must be lodged at the Registered Office of the Company situated at PO Box 68, 1 Surrey Street, London, WC2R 2NT not later than 12.00 hours on 25 April 1995. A W Brierley, Liquidator

No. 001737 of 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF BALLAST NEDAM CONSTRUCTION LIMITED AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
Notice is hereby given that a Petition was on 17th day of March 1995 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the share capital of the above named company from £20,000,000 to £14,101,000.
Notice is further given that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr. Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Wednesday the 26th day of April 1995.
Any creditor or shareholder of the company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of the capital should appear at the time of the hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose. A copy of the said Petition will be sent to any such person requiring the same by the under-mentioned solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
Dated the 6th day of April 1995
Mundays,
Crown House,
Church Road,
Claygate,
Surrey, KT10 0LP.
Solicitors for the above named company
Tel: 01372 467272
Ref: VAT

SKIMA PROPERTIES LIMITED
In Liquidation
I hereby give Notice, that I Martin Pocock, Licensed Insolvency Practioner, of Pococks, 3 Thameside Close, Ham, Richmond, Surrey TW10 7YS, was appointed Liquidator of the above named company on 16 December 1994. All debts and claims should be sent to me at the above address.
M Pocock Liquidator
Dated 9 March 1995

POOLE POWER COMPANY LIMITED
(IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
COMPANY NUMBER: 2263192
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Rules 4.182A and 11.2 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that the Liquidator of the above company intends to make a distribution to the creditors. Creditors are required to submit full details of their claims and their names and addresses to the Liquidator, Roger Smith, KPMG, PO Box 730, 20 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4PP on or before Friday 5 May 1995 which is the last day for proving claims. Notice is also given that the Liquidator proposes to make final distributions and that such distributions will be made without regard to any claims not made by the date mentioned.
Note: the company is able to pay all its known creditors in full.
Dated: 29 March 1995
R Smith - Liquidator

PUBLIC NOTICES

UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE
CONVOCATION
The 38th Ordinary Meeting of Convocation will be held on Saturday 22 April 1995 at 2.00 pm in the Curtis Auditorium, Herschel Building, University of Newcastle upon Tyne.
Members are cordially invited to attend: it would be helpful if they could advise the Registrar (Convocation) if they wish to do so.
Details of the Convocation Lecture and the Alumni Reunion Dinner that evening can be obtained from the Alumni Office (0191 222 6226).
Copies of the Convocation Agenda will be available on request from the Registrar (Convocation), 6 Kensington Terrace, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 7RU.
D E T Nicholson
Registrar
6 April 1995

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOVENA Ask St. Clare for three favours. One business favour and two impossible favours. Say nine Hail Mary's for nine days. Pray with candle lit. On final day allow candle to burn to end and publish in Thanksgiving. Ca.

TONY CHERWYL Please contact Christopher Logue Tel 0171 703 7863

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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OBITUARIES

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL SIR VIVIAN DUNN

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Vivian Dunn, KCVO, OBE, Principal Director of Music, Royal Marines, died on April 3 aged 86. He was born in Jubbulpore in India on December 24, 1908.





THE first Director of Music of the Royal Marines to be created KCVO, Vivian Dunn had a strong vocation for military music. This had run in successive generations in his family for more than a century; his grandfather was Sergeant Thomas Dunn, Band Sergeant of the 1st Battalion, 33rd (West Riding) Regiment of Foot while his father was Captain W. J. Dunn, Director of Music of the Royal Horse Guards. His mother Beatrice was also a fine musician, playing the piano, harp and organ.

Despite his military vocation, Dunn's musical career was well developed in civilian life before he enlisted in the Royal Marines.

Francis Vivian Dunn was educated at Peter Symonds College, Winchester; the Konservatorium der Musik, Cologne; and the Royal Academy of Music, London. He was afterwards selected in 1927 by Sir Henry Wood to play in his Queen's Hall Promenade Orchestra.

In 1930 he became a founder member of the first violin section of the BBC Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Adrian Boult. The next year he joined the Royal Marines and the Portsmouth Divisional Band as its director of music at the very young age of 22.

He was soon acknowledged as an accomplished composer and arranger. In 1934 the Royal Marines did not have an official slow march and five directors of music were invited to submit compositions. Dunn's arrangement of the English air *Early One Morning* under the title *Globe and Laurel* (the cap badge of the Royal Marines) was selected and this tune remained the regimental slow march until 1964. In that year Earl Mountbatten presented the *Preobrajensky March* to the Corps and Dunn's arrangement of this tune is used to this day.

With the Portsmouth Divisional Band he embarked in the Royal Yacht *Victoria and Albert* on numerous occasions during the reigns of King George V, King Edward VIII and King George VI, a connection with the Royal Family that was to be continued after the war. During the Second World War his fluent German caused him to be engaged in cipher and intelligence work.

Dunn accompanied the royal tour of South Africa in 1947 in the battleship *Vanguard* and that of Commonwealth countries in 1953 in the *SS Gothic*. He also made several voyages in the Royal Yacht *Britannia*, which was completed in 1954 primarily as a hospital ship, and replaced the *Victoria and Albert*; that supremely elegant vessel (built in 1899), with its truly yacht-like lines and graceful clipper bow, had by that time become unseaworthy and was "retired" after a somewhat anticlimactic wartime career as a gunnery training ship.

Promoted major in 1946, he became the first Principal Director of Music of the newly amalgamated Royal Marine Band Service. In June 1950 he designed the first large-scale presentation of Beating Retreat by the massed bands of the Royal Marines on Horse Guards Parade, an event which continues to this day in honour of the Duke of Edinburgh's birthday. Between 1949 and 1959 Dunn led a number of highly successful band tours to the United States and Canada.

As Principal Director, his main compositions included the music for the film *Cockleshell Heroes*, the quick marches *The Captain General*, *Soldiers of the Sea* and *Commando Patrol* and an arrangement of the Boer song *Sarie Marais* which is now the march of the Royal Marine Commandos. His many recordings of military music have been vastly popular at home and overseas and he won an EMI Golden Disc Award in 1969.

For 15 years head of the Royal Marines Band Service, he ensured through his lively energy that the bands would prosper. He was particularly insistent that Royal Marine musicians should see themselves as Marines first and musicians second and that they should be proficient in their operational roles. Non-commissioned and commissioned officers in the Band Service were required to maintain the high standards of smartness, drill and discipline for which the corps is renowned. When his own baton was raised, his personality ensured concentrated attention.

Granted an extension of service to the age of 60, he finally retired in 1968, having in that year devised the Royal Marines' outstanding contribution to the Royal Tournament.

He was created KCVO in 1969 having previously been appointed MVO in 1938 and advanced to CVO in 1954. He was appointed OBE in 1950.

Dunn also earned a fine reputation outside the world of military music, becoming an associate of the Royal Academy of Music in 1931 and a fellow in 1953. He was elected as a liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Musicians in 1956 and was honoured as their Master in 1987. He became president of the International Military Music Society in 1977 and was frequently a guest conductor with the principal British orchestras.

He is survived by his wife Margery, their son, recently retired as an officer of the Royal Marines, and two daughters.

CANON PETER PENWARDEN

Canon Peter Penwarden, former Vice-Provost of Southwark, died on March 24 aged 73. He was born on April 10, 1921.

THERE are three major churches in London where the Archbishops of Canterbury consecrate new bishops from time to time: St Paul's, Westminster Abbey and Southwark Cathedral. Southwark is the smallest and least well-known — "hidden away low down amidst the homes of poverty and the warehouses of modern commerce," as a former bishop once wrote — but it has become particularly appreciated for such services in recent years. Part of the reason for this popularity derives from the gifted ministry of Canon Peter Penwarden as Vice-Provost for more than 20 years from 1971.

He grew up in Essex, spent three years at Keble College, Oxford, at the beginning of the war, and then went to Lincoln Theological College in 1942. Here he came under the influence of Eric Abbott, later Dean of Westminster, and this showed clearly in his subsequent ministry. He was ordained to a curacy in Eltham in 1944, and later became vicar of All Saints, Wimbledon, and then of Benhilton. His move to Southwark Cathedral owed something to Bishop Mervyn Stockwood, who recognised that his ability to order worship well was particularly needed in the new team being formed under the leadership of the Provost, Harold Frankham. He brought also the wise experience of a good parish priest and the gift of clear and thoughtful preaching and speaking.

Penwarden served under two very different Provosts — David Edwards, who succeeded Frankham, being essentially a scholar and writer. Both found him a marvellously loyal and sensitive colleague, with a delightful sense of humour and the willingness to work hard and with meticulous care. He was determined that the worship of the cathedral should be the best that could be offered. To him, as much as to anyone, the Church of England owes a particular debt for showing how the modern services of the Alternative Service Book could be presented in a dignified and powerful way. Here was someone who understood that tradition need not be rigid or fixed, and his easy co-operation with a succession of fine directors of music was another tribute to his work.

In private life he shared his home for many years with his mother, and with his sister Margaret. Here he relaxed with detective novels, and with generous hospitality among friends and neighbours. Recently he and his sister, who survives him, retired to Salisbury.

PAUL HORGAN

Paul Horgan, prize-winning American novelist and historian, died in Middletown, Connecticut, on March 8 aged 91. He was born in Buffalo, New York, on August 1, 1903.

CRITICS found it difficult to typecast Paul Horgan: he was too versatile. In the course of a writing career that spanned six decades he produced novels, historical epics, volumes of short stories, poetry, essays, biographies and children's books. On average, Horgan published a new book every 18 months. In his spare time he was a voracious reader, indulged in music and painting, and became fluent in several European languages.

It may have been this very versatility, coupled with a style often regarded as traditional and old-fashioned in its painstaking characterisation, that kept critical enthusiasm for his work muted. Yet David McCullough, reviewing his book *The Heroic Triad* for *The New York Times* in 1989, wrote of Horgan: "With the exception of Wallace Stegner, no living American has so distinguished himself in both fiction and history. The difference is his luminous imagination."

The second of three children born to a middle-class Roman Catholic family, Paul George Vincent O'Shaughnessy Horgan was taken to New Mexico at the age of 12 when his father contracted tuberculosis and fell in love with the American South West. It was to form the setting of most of his books, including his two Pulitzer prizewinners: *Great River: The Rio Grande in American History* (1955) and *Lamy of Santa Fe* (1975). The latter was a biography of Archbishop Juan Bautista Lamy, an anti-slavery, pro-Indian cleric who went to New Mexico after it had been taken from Mexico by the United States.

Although he never went to university, having left high school to work on the local newspaper in Albuquerque, Horgan later taught at Yale, the University of Iowa and Wesleyan University, where he was director of the Centre of Advanced Studies. He was also awarded nearly 50 honorary degrees.

For three years after his brief experience of journalism, Horgan studied singing at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, where he also worked in the school's theatre. There, he later recalled, he "acted, sang, directed, planned and built scenery, wrote, even danced".

This multiplicity of talents posed a dilemma in his choice of career, but in the end he opted for writing, claiming it to be "the art best able to employ aspects of versatility in other arts".

His experiences at Eastman formed the basis of his first published novel in 1933, entitled *The Fault of Angels*.

In 1926 Horgan had returned to his old school, the New Mexico Military Institute, in the post of librarian. He remained there, writing a



spate of novels, until the Second World War when he became chief of Army Information with the US War Department and reached the rank of lieutenant-colonel. The war, however, did little to slow him down. Before it ended he had published another novel, had a play performed in New York, and had written the libretto for Ernest Bacon's American folk opera *A Tree on the Plains*.

With demobilisation, Horgan became a full-time writer. Among his best-known and most popular works were the novels *A Distant Trumpet* (1960), *Whitewater* (1970) and *The Thin Mountain Air* (1977). He also wrote a highly-praised biography of Igor Stravinsky (1972).

A lifelong bachelor, Paul Horgan leaves no survivors.

DAVID HEAP

David Heap, Headmaster of King Edward VII School, Lytham, 1982-93, died from pancreatic cancer on February 23 aged 53. He was born on March 14, 1941.

AT THE early age of 33 David Heap moved to the headship of Handsworth Grammar School, Birmingham, at a crucial stage in its history. He made it his first priority to offer educational opportunities to clever boys from the inner city and ethnic minority groups. At Lytham he was equally keen that the Assisted Places scheme should be used for the benefit of boys from modest backgrounds.

Educated at Heversham Grammar School, Cumbria, he went on to a distinguished career at Cambridge. A scholar of St Catharine's College, he gained a first in both parts of the History Tripos and was awarded the Figgis Memorial Prize.

From Cambridge, he took his first teaching job at Ermysted's Grammar School, Skipton. After a brief spell as a university lecturer in Australia he returned to England and became head of history at William Hulme's Grammar School, Manchester. From there he moved in 1974 to the headship of Handsworth Grammar School, leaving there in 1982 to become headmaster of King Edward VII School, Lytham. As a headmaster he had a genuine interest in all his pupils, teaching them from an early age, following their careers through, writing all their higher education references himself and urging the best to seek scholarships or places at Oxford and Cambridge.

At Lytham he oversaw several major building projects and brought in a specialist from Old Trafford to advise on arguably now the best school cricket squares in northern England.

He was a private individual, undemonstrative and modest about his achievements. His great love was caving. He had been president of the Cambridge University Caving Club and was a founder member of the Kendal Potholing Club. He published *Potholing: Beneath the Northern Pennines* in 1964 and, with the support of the Royal Geographical Society and a Winston Churchill fellowship, led several expeditions to Arctic Norway where he discovered and mapped over twenty miles of caves.

He fought a brave battle against cancer and it was a measure of his physically and mentally tough constitution that, after two operations, he should have undertaken a round-the-world-trip via Malaysia and Australasia, and returned tired yet unscathed. He was unmarried and leaves no surviving relatives.

JUSTICE ANWARUL HAQ



Anwarul Haq, former Chief Justice of Pakistan, died in Lahore on March 3 aged 77. He was born in the North-West Frontier Province on May 11, 1917.

AS BOTH Chief Justice of Lahore High Court and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Pakistan, Anwarul Haq had the unenviable task of presiding over former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's 1979 appeal against the death sentence that had been passed on him. The court was split four-to-three; but the Chief Justice, who personally delivered the 2,000-page judgment, sided with the majority and, thus has to bear some measure of responsibility for the final grisly circumstances of Bhutto's execution. It was, however, the one controversial incident in what otherwise had been a career of high distinction.

Anwarul Haq was educated at the Government High School, Jullundur, and graduated from DAV College there in 1936. He then went to University College, Oxford, for a year before passing by competitive examination into the old Indian Civil Service, which he joined in 1939. Since the war dislocated the normal ICS selection processes, he was one of the last Indians to be recruited to the service of the Raj.

When partition came in 1947, he opted to go with the new state of Pakistan. Most of his early career had been spent in the Punjab where he served first as a deputy commissioner before, after partition, being appointed deputy secretary (defence) in the new Pakistan Government secretariat. But his heart was in the law and he soon transferred to the judiciary. He gradually worked his way up from being an additional district judge to being a sessions judge and then a Justice of the High Court in Lahore. Once he became Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, he acted as President of Pakistan during General Zia ul-Haq's absences abroad.

His relations with President Zia were reasonably close — they both came from the same region of the country. He never considered, however, whether his judgments would please the powers-that-be — merely whether they were right.

If he had followed his own instincts, he would almost certainly have been in favour of the Supreme Court accepting Bhutto's eventual petition for clemency (the deposed Prime Minister refused to submit it to President Zia). But, as a judge, he was convinced that there was no legal ground for doing so — the exercise of mercy being the prerogative of the executive.

He did not lend his support to the one of his judicial colleagues who defiantly declared that the court had intended to urge clemency upon General Zia when giving its reasons for itself being unable to entertain Bhutto's petition. Yet, given General Zia's determination to get rid of his former patron, it is doubtful if by then even his intervention would have made much difference.

Anwarul Haq's wife predeceased him. He is survived by two sons, one of whom lives in London, where he himself had many friends.

PERSONAL COLUMN

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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MR WILSON LOOKS FORWARD TO WRITING AND CONSTITUENCY WORK

In his last day in the office of Prime Minister, Mr Wilson spoke yesterday of two ambitions: to write a book about how Britain is governed and to deploy himself as an MP "because I am a great devotee of Parliament and want to be remembered above all as a parliamentarian".

In an interview with the Press Association he said: "I am happy to be the longest-serving peacetime Prime Minister in this century. Gladstone certainly formed four Administrations, as I did, but he was older when he formed his first than I was when I formed my fourth. I never regarded him as someone to compete with or emulate."

He was leaving regretfully, because the Prime Minister's job was the most exciting in the realm. "I wanted to go at a time when many of our problems have been solved ... and the field of succession would be wide open to the greatest number ..."

He thought his greatest achievement as Prime Minister was in his third and fourth Administrations, "to unite the country in the fight against inflation and the consequent problem of unemployment: in other words, to replace confrontation and conflict within our national family by concern and cooperation".

His two great disappointments were not to have settled the Rhodesian issue or to have made more progress in Northern Ireland.

Now he was stepping down after nearly eight years as Prime Minister, he wanted to do more for his constituency. He also planned "to press the great causes I have been keen about as a backbench MP and as a member of the most distinguished club in Britain, the Society of Former Prime Ministers." He intended to write some reflective pieces and a book about how Britain is governed.

"I have read so much by academic experts, but as one who served in Churchill's Cabinet Secretariat in 1940, I wrote the Cabinet minutes, and then was a member of the Attlee Cabinet in 1947, I know more than anyone about how Britain's government works.

"There will be no more memoirs for a long time, although I will try to get down on paper as soon as I can my recollections of this most exciting government of 1974-1976."

Mr Wilson said he was a trustee of the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company and would now have time to go to shows. He had not been to more than 20 shows in his 13 years as party leader. "I shall now have more time for reading for pleasure and to see films." He said his successor would get his loyal support, "particularly when the going is rough".

Asked if there were any decisions he now regretted, he replied: "One, possibly. Looking back, I wish we could have devalued sterling in 1966, but the International Monetary Fund rules were very tough then. I regret certain appointments, some of whom have gone from strength to strength, as a result of the fact that I brought them from the obscurity from which I realize now they should not have emerged."

ON THIS DAY

April 6, 1976

Harold Wilson, created Baron Wilson of Rievaulx in 1983, Prime Minister 1964-70, 1974-76, was succeeded by James Callaghan. His record as longest-serving peacetime Prime Minister this century was broken by Margaret Thatcher, 1979-1990.

Tim Jones introduces a three-page report on the launch of the *Oriana*, P&O's superliner built for the growing cruise market

Flagship that is British at heart

A new era of cruise luxury is heralded today when the Queen names the first superliner custom-built for the British market. The *Oriana*, the fastest cruise liner launched for more than 25 years — capable of 25 knots — is a commitment to the future by P&O Cruises. She is a £200 million investment by the company in continuing development, service and excellence.

Despite teething troubles with vibration at high speeds during sea trials, exclusively revealed in *The Times* on March 22, she is equipped with the biggest stabilisers ever fitted to a ship to ensure smooth sailing.

While many fine ships sail the seven seas, some appear to have come from the same production line. Features vary, but many have the stamp of a land-based hotel chain: comfortable, familiar, but lacking a distinctive style.

The *Oriana*, 69,153 tons of elegance, changes all that. The decision to build a superliner dedicated to the British market was seen as a bold and exciting move.

Lord Sterling of Plaistow, the chairman of P&O, and his fellow executives, recognised the growing popularity of cruising. Gwyn Hughes, the managing director of P&O Cruises, says: "The number of potential cruisers is soaring as those born in the 1950s and 1960s grow older. We need the *Oriana* — which will carry 10 per cent of British cruise passengers — just to keep pace with the growth of the market."

The ship, which will carry 760 crew, is 853 feet long and 106 feet wide, and has ten decks.

Lord Sterling and his team believe that the British are sufficiently different for their specific desires to be catered for.

With centuries of maritime tradition running through its history, the island race has an ingrained love affair with the sea. The trick is to encapsulate memories and desires and meld them into a modern superliner whose facilities and style will ensure that she maintains a pre-eminence for decades to come.

Although the *Oriana* is a superliner for the next century, her designers incorporated within the basic philosophy of her build those features which have ensured the enduring popularity of the *Canberra*, which was introduced in 1961.

The reasons for the popularity of the Canberra with British passengers included the relationship of accommodation decks to public rooms to allow an easy flow around the ship and the variety of places where everybody could feel at home, whatever their tastes.

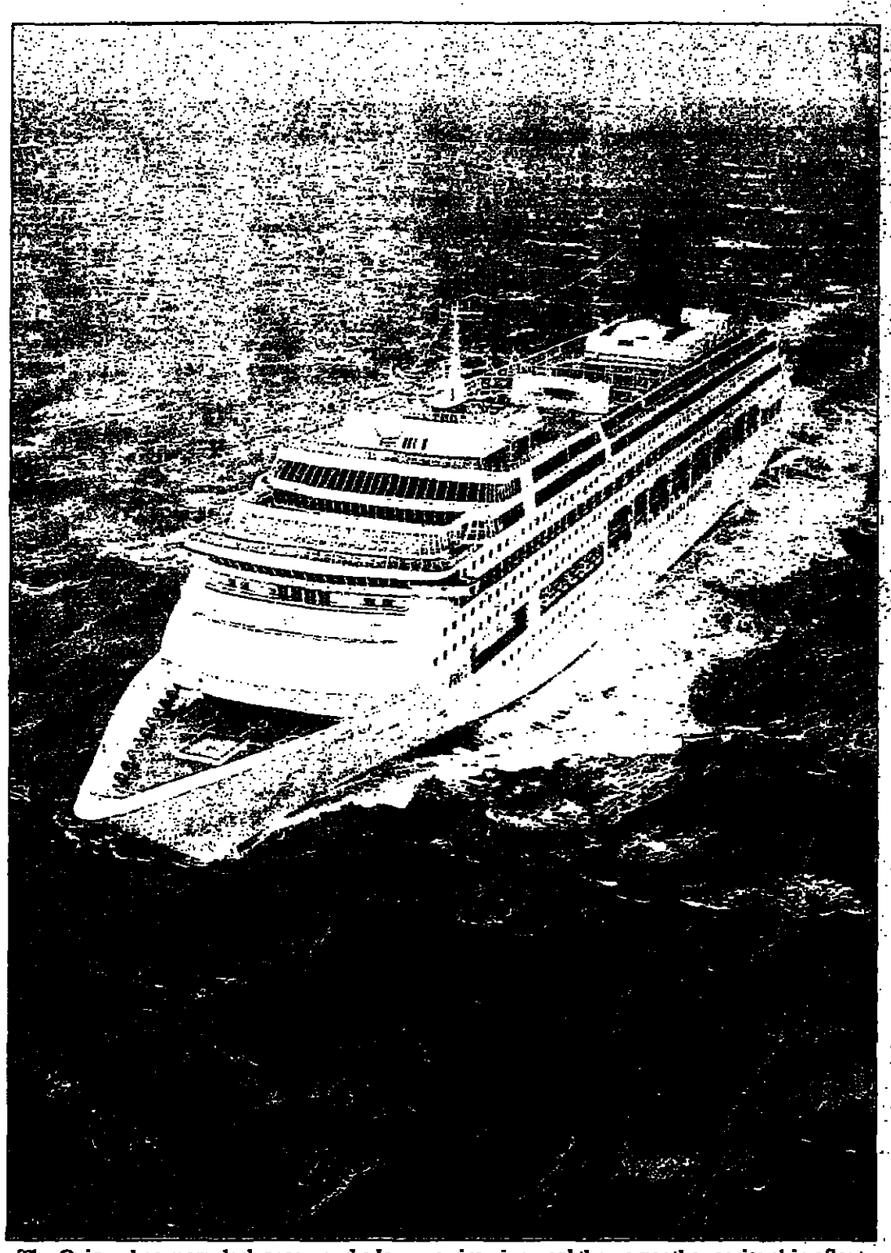
The 1,975 passengers who sail on the new flagship of P&O's cruise fleet will thus have a comfortable link with a much-loved ship, while enjoying the best that design and technology can provide.

The *Oriana*'s brochure reads at times like the *Guinness Book of Records*. She has more deck space (2.5 acres) than any other cruise ship afloat, and one of her three swimming pools is also the largest on any liner. She also has a higher proportion of balcony cabins than any other cruise ship based in the UK.

Her on-board art collection of nearly 3,000 works, all by British artists, surpasses the number hung in the National Gallery, while her West End-style Theatre Royal, with 650 individually air-conditioned seats, is bigger than on any other ship. One stunning feature is the waterfall which descends the full height of the four-deck atrium, while the teak decks and rich wood panelling proclaim that, unlike her American chrome and marble rivals, she is the very model of a modern British ship.

She will fly the Red Ensign, but she was not built in the UK. Although British yards had the opportunity to tender, none did. The ship was built by Meyer Werft at Papenburg in Germany in the largest covered building dock in the world.

In spite of that, she has within her immense input from home-based companies and will sail from sunrise to sunset as a symbol of British innovation and faith in the future.



The *Oriana* has more deck space, and a larger swimming pool than any other cruise ship afloat

Boom time for the cruise business

Rivals slash prices as 22 new holiday ships are brought into the market

The *Oriana* is being launched into a market which is growing faster than any other sector of the travel industry. Every year, cruising becomes more popular and the shipping lines are introducing ships as fast as they can.

In the past five years the market has grown by more than 60 per cent and this year 300,000 people will take a cruise. By the turn of the century more than 500,000 — some predict as many as three quarters of a million — British holidaymakers will choose to cruise on one of the scores of liners now operating around the world.

Between now and 1997, about 22 ships, including the *Oriana*, will be brought into the market and the choice of cruises is expanding. According to the Passenger Shipping Association (PSA), the big success story last year was the West Coast of America, especially Alaska, which had an 87 per cent growth rate to 19,482 passengers. The British appear to be particularly keen on the wildlife and spectacular scenery.

> 'An exciting year for the UK cruise industry'

The biggest single sector of the market remains the Caribbean "fly/sail" cruises which entail a flight, normally to Miami, before joining an American-based cruise ship. About 86,500 Britons choose this way to sail in the calmest waters to the most attractive islands in the world. The Caribbean dominates the market with 43 per cent of the business, followed by the Mediterranean with 10 per cent and Scandinavia with 3 per cent.

Until now, however, the number of berths in ships leaving British ports has been limited and as a result only 80,715 passengers joined cruises from the UK in 1994 — almost exactly the same as the year before. The PSA says that this is about to change as the *Oriana* and other cruise ships come on to the market. They are likely to be concentrated on the Mediterranean followed by the Canaries and Madeira, as 70 per cent have been over many years.

William Gibbons, director of the PSA, says that the figures prove that the diversity and quality of the cruises available are broadening their appeal. "This will be a dramatic and exciting year for the UK cruise industry," he says.

"Eight new ships come into service in 1995 including the *Oriana*. Capacity out of UK ports will be further boosted by CTC's ship *Southern Cross*, and the move by Airtours to enter the UK cruising market should also substantially increase sales."

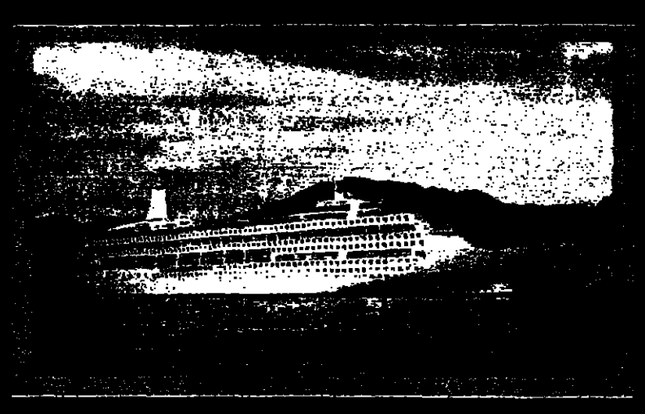
The idyll of a slow passage with luxury at every turn still appeals mostly to older people and the average age for cruisers is the early forties. A determined effort by the shipping lines to rid itself of the elderly image has seen a steady decline in the average age of passengers. Nonetheless, the over-55s still account for a quarter of cruisers and their demands for high quality accommodation has seen a dramatic improvement in standards on board.

P&O and Cunard each has about 30 per cent of UK market share followed by the Royal Caribbean Cruise Line with 15 per cent and Ukrainian-based CTC with 10 per cent.

Airtours has bought a ship of its own, introduced its own brochure and cut prices to a fraction of what they were three years ago. Some predict that the rapid growth of the budget market could do to cruising what the package holiday did to foreign travel in the 1960s.

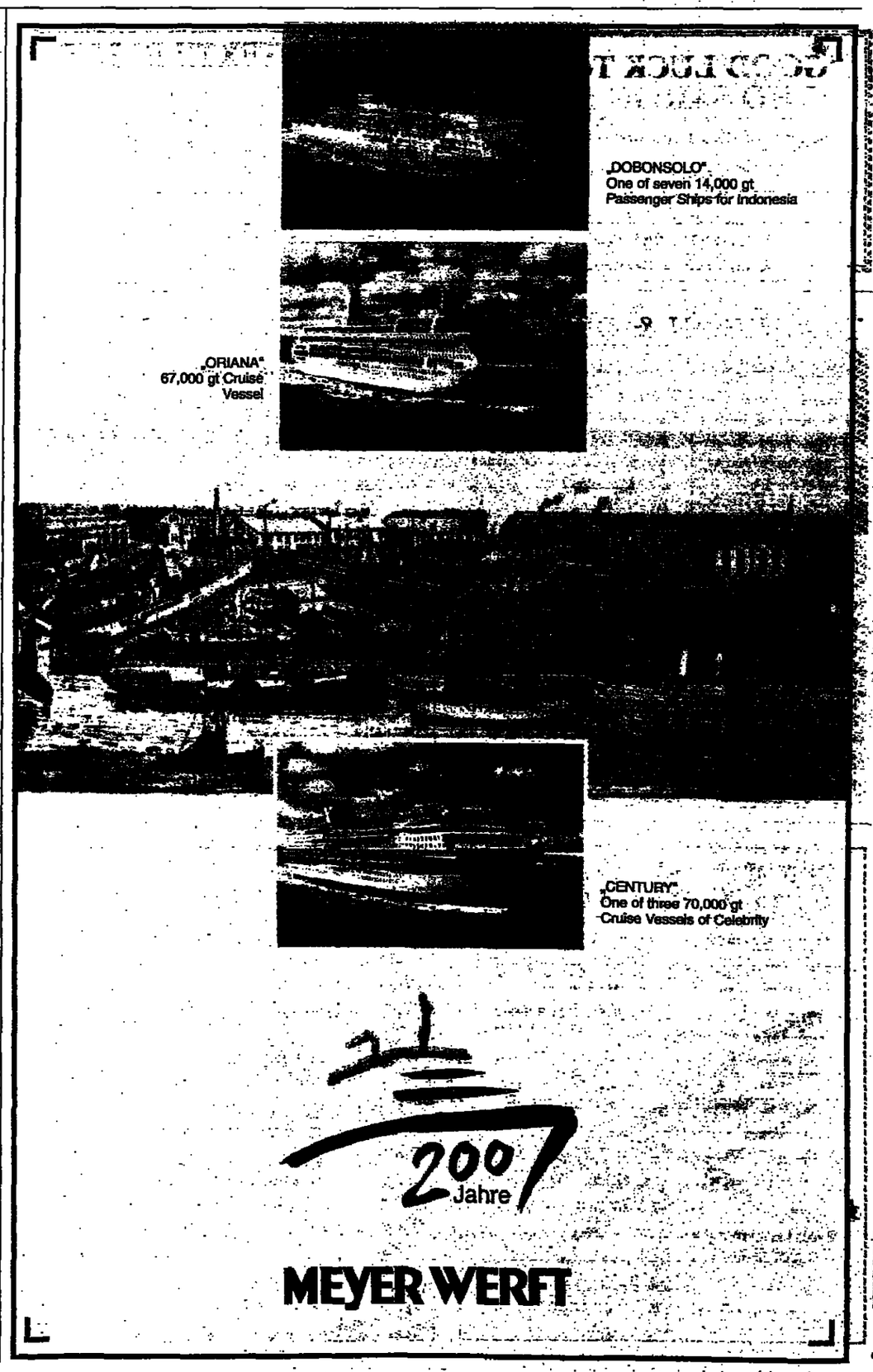
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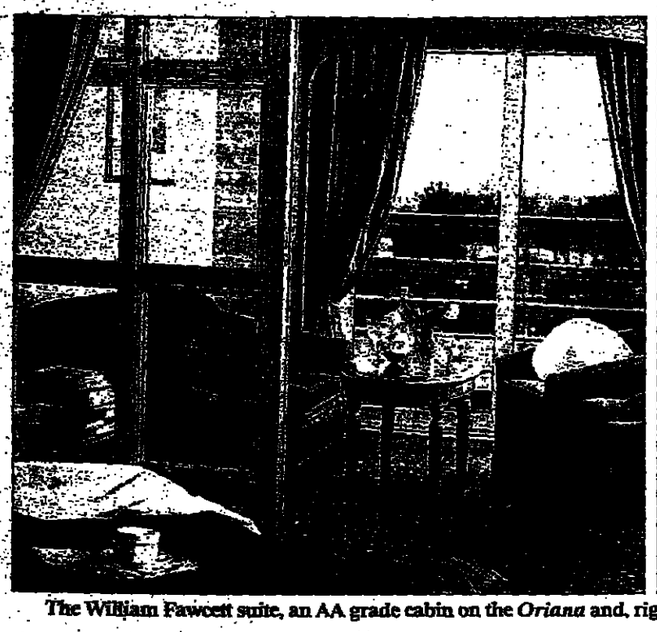


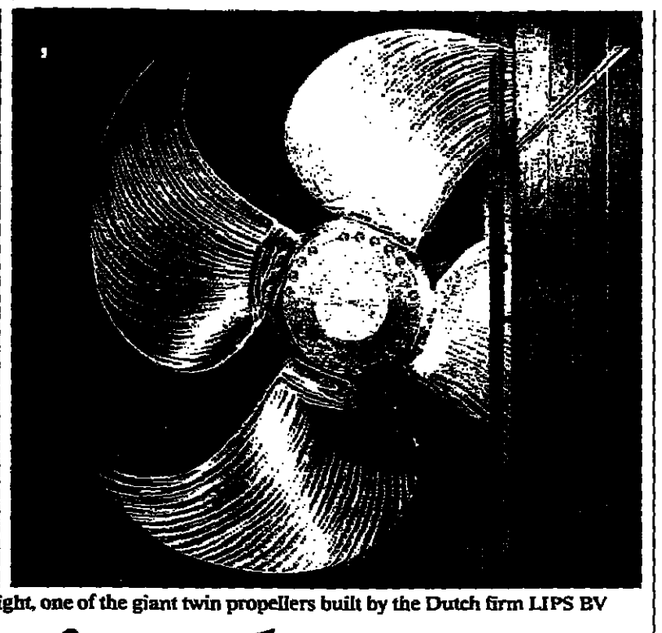
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Tim Jones looks at the *Oriana's* elegance above and below the waterline





The William Fawcett suite, an AA grade cabin on the *Oriana* and, right, one of the giant twin propellers built by the Dutch firm LIPS BV

An ocean-going beauty

Wherever she sails, the *Oriana's* stylish lines will mark her out as one of the great ocean passenger liners. Three top cruise architects and designers, from Sweden, Britain and Norway, are responsible for the design of P&O's new German-built flagship.

Robert Tillberg, whose company is based in southern Sweden, is responsible for the overall style of the ship, including the external profile and public room arrangements. John McNeece, who is based in London, has designed many of the public rooms, while Petter Yran from Norway is responsible for the design of all passenger and officer cabins.

Passengers will be able to enjoy and admire the conceptual skills and flair which give the mighty ship her distinctive elegance and atmosphere, but some aspects of the *Oriana* will remain mysteries to those who cruise on her.

The passengers will be concerned primarily with the service and comfort on offer. They do not need to know about, and may not be interested in, the technical aspects of the *Oriana* which will contribute enormously to their safety and well being.

Yet the four mighty engines which power the liner weigh a total of 742 tonnes and provide power to two 33.7 tonne variable pitch propellers in order to deliver her high cruising speed of 25 knots. The *Oriana's* speed allows her to take on cruises worldwide.

Her stabilisers were built by Brown Brothers of Edinburgh. With an area of 21.5 square metres, they each weigh 93 tonnes and are controlled by sensitive instrumentation to detect and register the ship's movements.

In order to manoeuvre safely in and out of port, the *Oriana* must be able to turn in her own length, move sideways, ahead or astern. To enable her to do this, she has three bow thrusters and one stern thruster. In addition her rudders can be made to act as giant flaps to direct water from the main propellers in different directions. These computer-controlled devices are linked to a joystick — not much larger than the gear stick of a car — which is mounted in a central position on the bridge. From there the captain controls the liner, using the stick to carry out the precise movements needed.

Anyone who remembers the rust-streaked appearance of the *Canberra* on her return from the Falklands War will be well aware of the corrosive effect of salt. Above water, the problem can be countered by constant painting, but beneath the waves fresh ways of monitoring the problem are needed.

The answer, for the *Oriana*, is an impressed current cathodic protection system. This means that the hull of the ship will be electrified. The charge is minuscule — just one quarter of a volt — and works on the principle that if electricity can be prevented from escaping into the water or can be made to flow in the opposite direction, then the rusting process can be halted.

It is these state-of-the-art technical features which, although largely hidden from the passengers, will ensure their cruise on the *Oriana* will be trouble-free.

A life-saving captain on the bridge

Commodore Gibb has 40 years with P&O and won an award for heroism

When the *Oriana* slips her anchor at Southampton on Sunday to begin her maiden cruise, the man in command will be Commodore Ian Gibb, 59, who has also been named Commodore of P&O Cruises and of the Princess Cruises fleet, a total of 11 ships. *Tim Jones writes.*

He was the winner of an award from the Royal Humane Society for saving life at sea, after rescuing an elderly passenger who fell off the quayside in Istanbul in 1978. "I handed my gold-braid cap and VHF radio set to another crew member, dived in and fished him out. Once we had pumped the water out of him he started complaining loudly that his shopping bag full of souvenirs was still in the water."

Commodore Gibb joined P&O as a cadet in 1954 at the age of 17, rather than going into the family stevedoring business. There are four generations of master mariners on both sides of his family. He became chief officer on the *Chitsun* in 1972, was promoted to captain in 1975 and made master of *Sea Princess* in 1980. Three years later he went ashore as general manager fleet (West Coast America) and returned to sea in 1985, again in command of the *Sea Princess*, then of the *Island Princess* and the *Canberra*.

It was his long association with the *Canberra* which was partly instrumental in his being chosen to captain the *Oriana*. The company considered it crucial to appoint a captain who could meet the challenge of creating the atmosphere of the *Canberra* on board the *Oriana*.

Commodore Gibb says: "My role will be to blend a feeling of modernity with one of timelessness and tradition, a combination which I know will be appreciated by our British passengers. The *Oriana*, with the sophistication of her engines and stabilisers and her central computer system, represents a quantum leap.

"Apart from the *Canberra*, which has long been a favourite of mine, no other ship would give me greater pleasure to command."



Commodore Ian Gibb at the controls of the *Oriana*

Steaming into the big league

Lord Sterling has taken a leading role in the change of fortunes at P&O

Lord Sterling, chairman of P&O, came relatively late to shipping. He had built up his own company, Sterling Guarantee Trust, and in 1980 joined P&O as a non-executive director.

In 1983, Trafalgar House made an aggressive takeover bid for P&O. "In order to fight the bid it was suggested I take over as chairman," Lord Sterling says. "We won, if that is what you call it."

In 1985 he merged SGT with P&O. "I had joined at a time when passenger shipping was not particularly great at P&O," he says. "We had only a relatively small fleet, the Princess fleet operating out of the West Coast of America, the *Canberra* over here, and, from 1984, the *Royal Princess*. The company has changed quite dramatically since then. It was capitalised somewhere around £200 million then. Now, it must be about £4 billion.



On top: Lord Sterling

"Ships were no longer the natural link to India, once the Boeing 707s came. The game changed completely. The fleet was getting out of date, and we were living on past glories," Lord Sterling says. "My view was that we could no longer say, 'because we are P&O you should be quite happy with outdated facilities'."

It became a question of what the company was prepared to risk, what it was going to do in the future. "I am convinced that you have to have modern equipment if you are to compete with the best in the world. That meant huge capital investment in the fleet. We either pulled out of cruising completely or became one of the biggest in world terms."

Lord Sterling had this quantum leap rigorously costed. "By the late 1980s we were falling behind the Carnivals and RCCLs with their modern ships and equipment. We acquired Sitmar and began a building programme of three large ships: the *Star Princess*, the *Crown Princess* and the *Regal Princess*. It propelled us into the big league. The Princess fleet is the best-known in America today. Even competitors agree with that. By buying Sitmar we had made the decision to enter the huge market of the Caribbean, where you can operate for 11 months of the year."

Lord Sterling's first involvement with the *Oriana* was, he says, "making a commitment for £200 million and deciding with senior management what sort of ship we should be building to carry us into the next century. We needed a ship with speed to do the fast runs and the world cruises." He admits that the only total authority he has within P&O is that he is allowed to choose the names of the ships.

Lord Sterling foresees other cruise markets opening up, particularly around Asia, and the home market expanding. "We have teams going round the world's shipyards just seeing new designs, cost-saving, and new technology with an eye to the future. Already we have three ships being built, the *Sun* and the *Dawn Princesses*, and the newest of 104,000 gross tonnage, which will be by far the world's largest when it arrives in 1997.

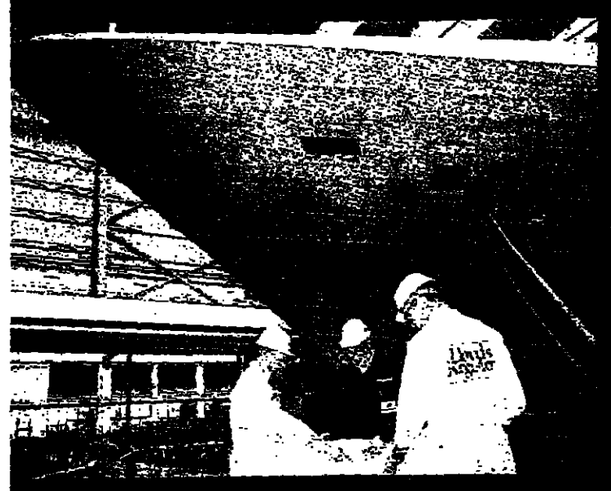
"The cruise market is expanding as more and more people learn about cruising. The age range has widened enormously, and with it the whole market, which is extremely healthy."

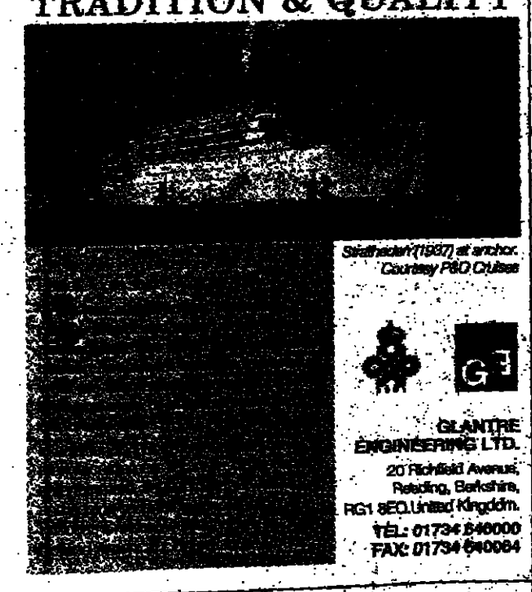
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Charming, but oh so choppy

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The *Canberra*, delivered in 1961, was the last P&O ship built for passenger-line voyages after the airliner killed off traditional travel by sea

In 1844 William Makepeace Thackeray joined P&O's first cruise. **John Grigsby** charts the journey and the company's history

On June 20, 1844, an advertisement appeared in *The Illustrated London News* for a six-week "tour by steam" of the Mediterranean on the *Iberia*, "the Pacific and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's well-known splendid steamship".

The advertisement suggests that P&O was the first to enter the cruise business — "at least with any degree of success. The nearest rival was Richard Hoare, a London leather merchant, who in 1536 organised a round trip of two ships to Newfoundland. But as only one ship returned, and the passengers who made it back are said to have resorted to cannibalism, Hoare's venture can hardly be said to have been a cruise in the modern sense.

The 33-year-old William Makepeace Thackeray was one of the passengers on part of the maiden cruising voyage of the *Iberia*, a 516-ton wooden paddle steamer, as part of a grand tour, calling at Vigo, Gibraltar, Malta, Rhodes, Athens, Smyrna, Constantinople, Jaffa and Alexandria, with excursions at each port.

The foundations of the P&O fortunes had been laid as recently as 1837 when Captain Richard Bourne, a Dublin shipowner who had joined the partnership of Brodie McGhie Willcox, a London shipbroker, and Arthur Anderson, a Shetland-born former Royal Navy clerk, won the first commercial contract for carrying mail by sea.

Though Thackeray could not stand the thought of another journey through the Bay of Biscay and travelled home overland, he otherwise seems typical of many of the thousands of passengers who followed him. He criticised the sights ashore — Athens was a "rickety agglomeration of huts"; the ghetto of Jerusalem was "preeminent in filth" — while recollecting the trip with delight when he came home.

"So easy, so charming and I think profitable — it leaves such a store of pleasant recollections — that I can't but recommend all persons who have the time and means to make a similar journey," he wrote in *Notes of a Journey from Cornhill to Grand Cairo*, the account of his trip which made his reputation.

The author of *Vanity Fair* was one of the pioneers of the "freebie", that system when well-known people and journalists are given a free passage in the hope that they will speak and write enthusiastically about it.

However, it was not until the 1880s that cruising became fully established when P&O cruises became a feature of the shipping scene, with the *British Medical Journal* recommending "ocean holidays" as beneficial to health. The company entered the business in earnest in 1904 when the former mail steamer *Rome* started a new career as the cruise yacht *Vectis*.

Cruising did not resume at its former level after the First World War until the 1920s. The *Viceroy of India*, P&O's first turbo-electric-powered ship, was introduced in 1929 as a liner to India and a cruise ship, with the line's first indoor swimming pool. In the 1920s, a cruise was often used to introduce a liner. For example, in 1925, the *Ranchi's* maiden voyage was a cruise to Norway.

Sea voyaging changed dramatically after the Second World War, and the *Canberra*, delivered in 1961, was the last P&O ship built for passenger-line voyages. The jet airliner killed off the company's traditional passenger services in little more than a decade.

Forced to concentrate on sea travel for leisure, P&O abolished the classes of accommodation on board and became one of the world's biggest cruise operators, acquiring established operators Princess Cruises, Swan Hellenic and Sitmar along the way. In 1982, the *Canberra*, the "great white whale", became the most famous merchant ship in the world when she took part in the Falklands campaign.

But that year the number of British passengers fell to its lowest level for years: 55,000 compared with the 150,000 who had cruised in 1972. However, the return of the luxurious *Sea Princess* and others from the Caribbean to British waters, and the interest created by the popular TV series *The Love Boat*, stimulated demand and now more people than ever are cruising.

Yet for many there is no ship quite like the *Canberra*. Passengers love the ship for her high style at low prices. The elegant Crow's Nest bar and the Cricketers theme pubs must be two of the most pleasant bars afloat. The *Oriana* (following the *Canberra's* example, with a Lord's Tavern) will do well if she commands as much affection.

Floating home from home

Fifty British companies have supplied goods for the superliner

From bars to spas, from carpets to china, and from lifejackets to linen, British companies have been providing the remarkable array of equipment needed in a floating hotel. Nearly 50 UK companies have played their part in turning the *Oriana* into a home from home.

Some are well-known names. Courtaulds, for example, has supplied 100,000 litres of specialist paint from its International Paint subsidiary in the North East. Thorn Security has installed its Saturn computer system to control fire doors, sprinklers and security lighting. Slumberland has supplied pillows for passengers and crew.

For others, their contribution to the *Oriana* is the biggest order ever won. Englender, a family firm founded in South Normanton, Derbyshire, in 1926, began fulfilling its contract two years ago and since then has filled more than 60 containers with furniture made for the liner.

Another ten British companies have provided furniture for the liner, while seven have contributed linen, blankets and bedspreads. Nearly 50,000 square yards of Axminster carpet have been woven by Brintons of Kidderminster, Hereford and Worcester, and the contract took 18 months to fulfil. Designs for the *Oriana* range from the light and dark green shades of a cricket pitch for the Lord's Tavern to Tudor roses in the Anderson's bar.

Chinacraft supplied 30,000 pieces of china for the Conservatory. Lord Queensberry, ceramic designer and former professor of ceramics at the Royal College of Art, was called in by Chinacraft to produce a design in keeping with the restaurant's art deco style pictures with their black and silver frames. He decided on a bold design of glossy gunmetal grey diamonds on a white base.

The order of 86,546 pieces of fine china for the other restaurants was a massive one even for Wedgwood. It features the rising sun symbol adorning the bow of the ship. The china was made at Wedgwood's factory at Barlaston, Staffordshire.

What is claimed to be the ultimate in on-board health and fitness has been provided by Champneys, which has its own health centre at Tring, Hertfordshire. The Champneys spa is on the Lido deck offering hairdressing and beauty treatments, exercise classes and aromatherapy, facial treatment and seaweed body wraps.

The *Oriana's* lifejackets were produced by Cosalt International at North Shields, Tyne and Wear, and its liferafts by RFD of Godalming, Surrey. Floor-level safety lighting, more effective than overhead lighting in case of fire, was provided by Existalite of Hutton, Essex.

RODNEY HOBSON

Spring cruises in the Mediterranean

With three ships to choose from, now that the *Oriana* has joined the fleet, P&O Cruises offers passengers the choice of sailing from Southampton or flying to Venice to join the *Sea Princess*. Nineteen of this year's 54 cruises will be fly-cruises.

The *Oriana's* sell-out maiden voyage, departing from Southampton, will take 1,760 passengers to the Atlantic Isles, then to Mediterranean ports throughout the spring and summer. For those who favour cooler climes in high summer, she will have one cruise to Iceland and the Norwegian fiords, another to the Baltic, a tempting itinerary since it includes Oslo, Copenhagen, Helsinki, St Petersburg and Gdansk.

On the *Oriana*, like *Canberra*, there are a small number of four-berth cabins, known as the Friendly Fours, with a 10 per cent reduction for each of four adults. Otherwise, prices for a 13-night Mediterranean cruise in high season start at £1,990 in a two-bedded cabin with shower and toilet. All cabins have air-conditioning, refrigerators and television. There are generous reductions for children, up to the age of 16, according to the accommodation booked.

The *Canberra* returns from her world cruise tomorrow and leaves on Saturday for a one-off three-week voyage to the Caribbean. She will divide her summer between the east and west Mediterranean, the North Cape, the Atlantic Isles and North Africa. A nine-night cruise to the Land of the Vikings in late spring costs from £1,035 a person in a two-bedded cabin.

The *Sea Princess* will emerge from her April refurbishment with a new name, the *Victoria*, ready to begin her fly-cruise programme which will include many exotic and more distant ports. Istanbul, Yalta, Limassol, Tarpis in Syria, Haifa and Aqaba are well within the reach of itineraries that begin in Venice.

A smaller ship than the others, the *Victoria* carries 700 passengers in luxurious accommodation. On the Treasures of the Near East cruise in mid-summer, a two-bedded cabin costs £2,100 for a 14-night cruise, including return flights to Venice.

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THE TIMES TODAY

THURSDAY APRIL 6 1995

NEWS

Major pressed to move Bottomley

■ John Major was under mounting pressure to move Virginia Bottomley from her post as Health Secretary after she was savaged by Conservative MPs over her handling of the shake-up of London's health services.

She was accused of vandalising health services and lacking sensitivity during one of the most unhappy appearances at the despatch box of a Cabinet minister in recent times.. **Pages 1, 6**

Condemned man attends hearing

■ Nicholas Ingram, the British-born convicted murderer *sentenced to die in the electric chair tonight, caught a brief* glimpse of the outside world when he attended a last-minute appeal for a stay of execution. It was the first time in eight years that he has been allowed to leave the Georgia Classification Centre where he has spent 12 years ..... **Page 1**

Howard defeat

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, will have to introduce emergency legislation to cover compensation payments to victims of crime after suffering a *Lords defeat*..... **Page 1**

Ferry safety

Roll-on, roll-off ferries stand a far better chance of staying afloat once water has penetrated the bow-doors if they are equipped with "transverse bulk-heads" MPs were told..... **Page 1**

Wakeham inquiry

An inquiry was launched into a contract awarded by Lord Wakeham *when he was a government* minister to a company of which he is now a director ..... **Page 2**

Dublin INLA case

A man once described at the Old Bailey as the chief of staff of the outlawed Irish National Liberation Army appeared in court in Dublin ..... **Page 2**

Dying woman's baby

A woman given virtually no chance of recovering from head injuries sustained in a car crash is being kept alive so that her unborn baby can live ..... **Page 3**

Stagg sues police

Colin Stagg, the man acquitted last year of murdering Rachel Nickell on Wimbledon Common, is to sue the police over his arrest. He said that he had been granted legal aid ..... **Page 3**

War truths

The cosy image of wartime Britain as a crime-free society with people sharing hardship takes a severe knock in a study that reveals a soaring divorce rate and a *42 per cent rise in the prison* population ..... **Page 5**

Military axe

Radical recommendations to cut the most senior military ranks and slash allowances in the armed forces were unveiled by the Ministry of Defence ... **Page 7**

Blair backs Europe

Tony Blair gave his clear backing for the principle of a single currency as he set out the "patriotic case" for Britain to be at the heart of Europe..... **Page 8**

Greenhouse gas cuts

Britain and Germany pressed America to support deeper cuts in the emission of "greenhouse" gases or risk an increasingly unstable world..... **Page 9**

Rwanda torture

Up to 50,000 people are being detained in Rwanda, half of them feared held in unofficial secret detention centres where torture is commonplace..... **Page 10**

French sleaze

Claims that French socialists extorted almost £1m from the Franco-British industrial giant, GEC-Alsthom, thrust the sleaze factor back into the country's presidential election campaign ..... **Page 11**

Injured kite waits for call of the wild

■ A rare red kite is being treated at London Zoo after being found with a shotgun wound to its wing. The bird is one of a few of red kites reintroduced to England and Scotland from Sweden and Spain six years ago. It was found near Watlington, Oxfordshire, and is being treated at the Institute of Zoology. If it survives it will be returned to the wild..... **Page 3**



RICARDO MAZALAN

A Hutu awaiting trial for helping in the slaughter of 500,000 Tutsis a year ago, looks out from his cell in Kigali, Rwanda. **Page 10**

BUSINESS

GEC ultimatum: The Ministry of Defence has given GEC a year to make its Phoenix remote-controlled surveillance aircraft work or face cancellation of the £230 million contract ..... **Page 23**

Business breather: Ailing companies are to be given a 28-day breathing space to try to save their businesses under new Government proposals ..... **Page 23**

Barclays pay: Andrew Buxton, the chairman of Barclays Bank, joined directors earning more than half a million pounds a year in 1994, with a rise to £523,000 ..... **Page 23**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index rose 2.1 to 3,190.2. Sterling fell from 84.8 to 84.7 as the pound rose from $1.6033 to $1.6035 but slipped from DM2.2217 to DM2.2180 ..... **Page 26**

Golf: If Nick Price wins the Masters in Augusta, he will become the first man since Ben Hogan in 1953 to win three major championships in a row ..... **Pages 42, 44**

Rugby union: The Rugby Football Union is to vote on a proposal to limit the number of non-England-qualified players in the Courage Clubs Championship..... **Page 44**

Boxing: Sky Sports signed a deal worth an estimated £50 million over two years to show the comeback fights of Mike Tyson, as well as Frank Bruno, Nigel Benn and Naseem Hamed ..... **Page 44**

Football: John Jensen damaged an ankle in training and will miss Arsenal's Cup Winners' Cup semi-final first leg against Sampdoria at Highbury ..... **Page 40**

Dumb show: The Hollywood vogue for "stupid comedy" reaches its ultimate expression in *Dumb and Dumber*. The week's other big film release is the adaptation of Beryl Bainbridge's autobiography, *An Awfully Big Adventure* ..... **Page 31**

Other Jacksons: Janet Jackson, whose record sales now rival her brother Michael's, with a spectacular show in Sheffield ..... **Page 31**

Noisy nights: It may not be the best festival in Britain this year but the South Bank Centre's tribute to the trendy minimalist composer Michael Nyman could well be the loudest ..... **Page 32**

Devil revived: Ben Jonson's satire on Jacobean morality, *The Devil is an Ass*, revived by the Royal Shakespeare Company..... **Page 33**

Fortnight of hell: Jeanette Foster, whose husband went missing in Borneo, talks to Julia Llewellyn Smith ..... **Page 12**

Valerie Grove: With the straight-backed 80-year-old Prunella Stack, who inherited a health and beauty league from her mother ..... **Page 12**

Polio victory: "I felt as though the iron lung clasping my neck was a hideous form of straitjacket," says a polio sufferer on the fortieth anniversary of the vaccine..... **Page 13**

There she goes: The launch of the *Oriana*..... **Pages 18, 19, 21**

Into Africa: Land Rover moves into off-road safaris..... **Page 35**

The past about us: Peter Ackroyd praises Simon Schama's *Landscape and Memory*, which resurrects the buried treasures of our environment..... **Page 34**

Lighting up: Rachel Cusk reviews Victoria Glendinning's *Electricity*, set in the 19th century ..... **Page 35**

Burundi follows the same bloody logic as Rwanda. In this twin country, a massacre by the ethnic group in power is unfortunately only the continuation of politics. — *Le Figaro*

Baseball's two warring sides find themselves temporarily at peace. It is now time for a little magnanimity and an end to the mutual bashing. — *The Washington Post*



IN THE TIMES

■ **LIFE AND SOUL**
Blue-eyed soul, or just blue rinse? David Sinclair on Wet Wet Wet's new album

■ **PLUS ...**
The Valerie Grove interview, the Bernard Levin column and Caitlin Moran on rock

Preview: American right-wing radio hosts, thought in part to have helped in the Republican Party's *sweeping mid-term* election victory, are the subject of *Naked News, Talk Radio* (Channel 4, 9.00pm)
Review: Matthew Bond wonders why snails have been featured so often in the BBC2 series *Seven Wonders of the World* ..... **Page 43**

Office managers

Mrs Bottomley should have realised that the closure of Bart's required a Commons statement as a mark of respect to the strength of feeling it has inspired..... **Page 15**

The Kiev linchpin

Ukraine's stability depends on Mr Kuchma's ability to demonstrate that courage pays ..... **Page 15**

Trust for the tortoise

The aim of the Galapagos Conservation Trust is to ensure that we do not squander the wealth of this insular treasure trove..... **Page 15**

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

From the political point of view the great appeal of abolishing income tax would be that it would restore power to the people, away from the State. *Income tax may be a tyranny* which has by now become only too familiar, but it is a tyranny for all that..... **Page 14**

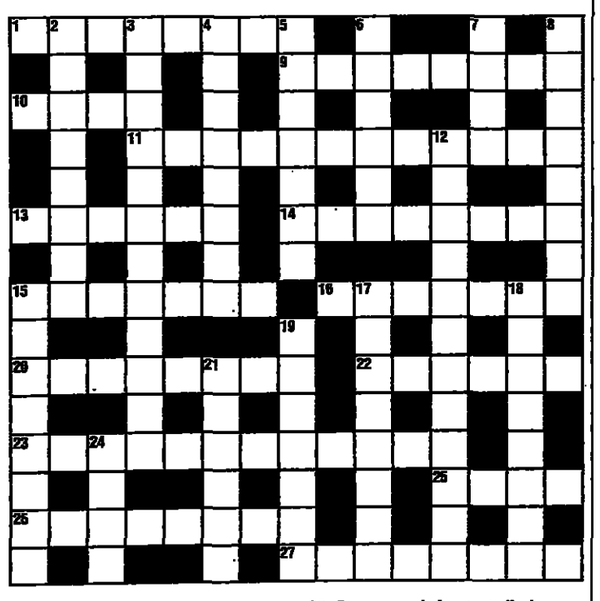
NICHOLAS WOOD

Mrs Bottomley's hectoring manner, her readiness to loose off salvos of statistics when under pressure and her tendency to confuse political courage with sheer stubbornness have brought even courtly souls like Peter Brooke to *the brink of revolt* ..... **Page 14**

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Vivian Dunn, Director of Music of the Royal Marines; **Anwarul Haq**, former Chief Justice of Pakistan; **Canon Peter Penwarden**, former Vice-Provost of Southwark; **Paul Horgan**, novelist; **David Heap**, headmaster..... **Page 17**

Jonathan Aitken on tax cuts; the "feel-good" factor; textbooks to the Third World; "English" English; Clause Four; monetary union; National Lottery; the *Panorama* affair ..... **Page 15**

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,822



ACROSS

1 Quickly cut a slice of meat (4,4)
9 Why peace-keepers go in first? It's madness (8)
10 Piano music for a duo (4)
11 Polonaise for brilliant finish (6,6)
13 Make secure in a storm, perhaps (6)
14 Sort out confusion as unit releases one crook (8)
15 Blunder leading to oil spill in port (7)
16 Crime is contained by minister's first act (7)
20 Stirring performer frenetically scored runs (8)
22 Keep silver in reserve for Friday, say (6)
23 Female cooked spinach dish, *traditional fare* (4,3,5)
25 One succeeded repeatedly in academic stream (4)
26 Is such concern for others a Liberal platitude? (8)
27 Old general writing unoriginal novel, for example (8)

DOWN

2 Approval to try and try again (4,4)
3 Musician's rare ability – no ground for complaint (7,5)
4 Taking part in such a rebellion is a bloomer (8)
5 Fight husband who's brutal and revolting (5-2)
6 Feature of body – part I'm having altered (6)
7 Wine that makes one endlessly excited (4)
8 Barring with the tail, finally (2,3,3)
12 Mathematical calculation extended a lot of soldiers (4,8)
15 Loathsome creature careless about fine plant (8)
17 Give encouragement without being physically present (8)
18 Runs into self-centredness as a cause of ill-feeling (8)
19 Acts collectively about church's foreign money (7)
21 Court activity to catch up with *rising crime* (6)
24 Block for animal accommodation (4)

Solution to Puzzle No 19,821

T	E	M	P	L	A	T	E		T	H	A	N	K	S
E		A		A		E		L		A		A		L
S	P	R	A	T		A	V	A	I	L	A	B	L	E
T		C		C		G		P		F		O		U
T	O	U	C	H	W	O	O	D		D	E	B	I	T
U		E		W		O		O				H		
B	I	T	T	E	R	N		G	A	Z	E	B	O	
E		R		V				E		R		D		
	L	Y	C	E	U	M		S	U	N	R	I	S	E
A				R		A	L			T		C		
C	L	A	N	G		T	O	A	S	T	R	A	C	K
A		P		R		T		I		E		N		H
C	H	A	M	E	L	E	O	N		M	A	N	N	A
I		R		E		R		T		P		I		N
A	T	T	E	N	D		H	E	R	E	W	A	R	D

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code:

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouces,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code:

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Tuesday: Highest day temp: Southampton Weather Centre, 17C (63F); lowest day max: Lerwick, Shetland, 2C (36F); highest rainfall: Eskdalemuir, Dumfries & Galloway, 0.15in; highest sunshine: Bognor Regis, West Sussex, 11.1hr.

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales should have a dry and warm day for the most part and, despite a lot of cloud, central and eastern areas should see some sunshine. Along the west coast, however, it will remain cloudy and misty. Rain in western Scotland will spread east before largely dying out, leaving behind coastal drizzle. Small amounts of rain in Northern Ireland.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands, E England, W Midlands, Central N, NE England:** mainly dry, cloudy with some bright or clear spells. Winds westerly, moderate. Max 17C (63F).

☐ **Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales, N Wales, NW England:** cloudy coastal mist and drizzle. Brighter at times away from exposed coasts. Winds west or northwest, moderate. Max 17C (63F), but 12C on cloudy coasts.

☐ **Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, N Ireland:** cloudy with some rain, becoming drier and brighter later. Winds southwesterly, moderate, locally fresh. Max 15C (59F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland:** mainly dry start, some rain for a time then drier and brighter again. Winds southwesterly, moderate or fresh. Max 15C (59F).

☐ **Argyll, NW Scotland:** cloudy, rain at times. Winds southwesterly, moderate or fresh. Max 12C (54F).

☐ **Orkney, Shetland:** dry, bright start, cloud and rain later. Winds southwesterly, moderate becoming fresh. Max 10C (50F).

☐ **Outlook:** rain in the north spreading south and dying out. Cooler but dry and brighter everywhere by Saturday morning.

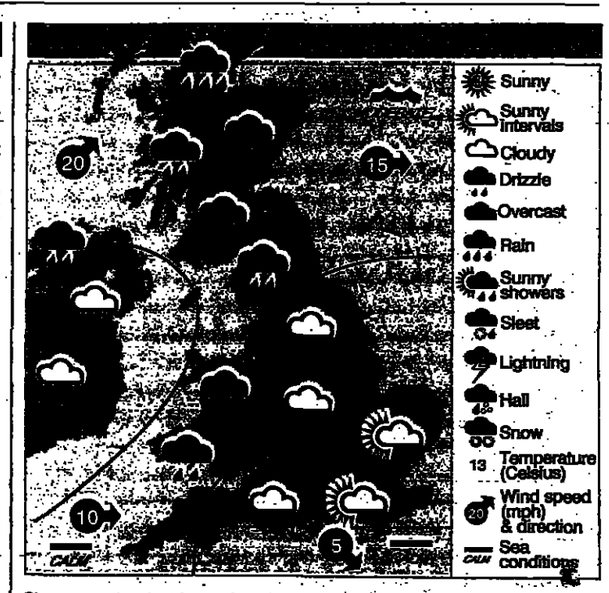
AROUND EUROPE

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

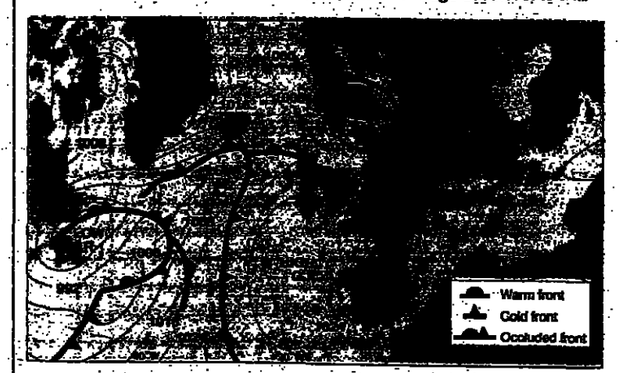
	Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F	
Aberdeen	1.4	0.02	7	45	c	Liverpool	0.2	-	12	54	c
Anglesey	3.1	-	12	54	c	London	5.2	-	18	61	s
Aspatria	3.6	0.01	10	50	r	Lowestoft	X				
Aviemore	2.2	-	6	43	c	Manchester	0.3	-	12	54	c
Belfast	-	-	11	52	r	Margate	9.1	-	12	54	s
Birmingham	1.4	-	13	55	c	Minehead	X				
Bognor R	11.1	-	17	63	s	Morecambe	3.6	-	11	52	b
Bournem'th	6.7	-	15	59	b	Newcastle	2.3	0.07	7	45	c
Bristol	X					Newquay	3.6	-	13	55	b
Buxton	0.6	0.01	10	50	c	Norwich	X				
Cardiff	4.9	-	14	57	b	Nottingham	X				
Clacton	6.2	-	12	54	b	Oxford	7.3	-	18	61	b
Colwyn Bay	3.0	-	11	52	b	Penzance	1.0	-	15	59	c
Cromer	5.4	-	9	48	b	Plymouth	7.3	-	15	59	s
Doncaster	-	-	10	50	c	Poole	5.7	-	17	63	b
Dunbar	X					Ross-o-wye	5.8	-	16	61	s
Eastbourne	7.9	-	14	57	s	Salcombe	7.8	-	13	55	s
Edinburgh	3.4	0.02	8	46	c	Sandown	8.2	-	16	61	s
Eskdalemuir	3.0	0.15	7	45	r	Saunton Sod	-	-	14	57	c
Exmouth	7.3	-	15	59	s	Scarboro'	5.0	0.01	7	45	s
Falmouth	X	-	15	59	b	Scilly Isles	0.3	-	13	55	b
Fishguard	3.9	-	13	55	b	Shanklin	8.4	-	16	61	s
Folkestone	7.4	-	15	59	b	Shrewsbury	1.2	-	15	59	c
Glasgow	3.4	0.01	8	46	r	Skegness	2.8	-	9	48	c
Guernsey	5.9	-	13	55	s	Southend	9.4	-	X	X	s
Hastings	8.1	-	14	57	s	Southport	-	-	11	52	b
Hayling I.	8.9	-	15	59	s	Southsea	9.6	-	15	59	s
Herne Bay	8.3	-	13	55	s	Stornoway	1.4	0.02	5	41	sl
Hove	8.0	-	15	59	s	Swanage	7.6	-	15	59	s
Hunstanton	1.4	-	8	46	c	Teignmouth	7.9	-	14	57	b
Ilfracombe	X					Tenby	X				
Isle of Man	-	-	9	48	c	Tiree	0.2	0.06	7	45	r
Jersey	-	-	12	54	c	Torquay	8.4	-	15	59	s
Kinloss	2.6	-	9	48	c	Tynemouth	2.8	0.05	8	46	du
Leeds	-	0.02	9	48	c	Ventnor	8.8	-	15	59	s
Lerwick	1.2	0.09	2	36	sn	Weston-s-mare	X				
Leuchars	X					Weymouth	8.7	-	14	57	s
Littlehmptn	8.6	-	16	61	s	These are Tuesday's figures					

Ajaccio	17	63	s	C'phagn	2	37	sl	Madrid	20	68	s	Riyadh	23	73	f
Alicante	19	66	s	Corfu	19	66	s	Majorca	19	66	s	Rome	15	59	f
Alex'dria	19	64	s	Dublin	12	54	c	Malaga	21	70	s	Salzburg	17	63	f
Algiers	20	68	c	Dubrovnik	17	63	s	Malta	18	64	f	S P'tisco	14	57	s
Amst'dm	11	52	c	Faro	23	73	f	Melb'rne	23	73	f	S Paulo	25	77	f
Athens	20	68	s	Florence	16	64	s	Mexico C	25	77	f	Seoul	8	46	s
Bahrain	27	81	s	Frankfurt	15	59	f	Miami	28	79	f	Sing'por	28	79	sh
Bangkok	30	86	f	Funchal	19	66	s	Milan	20	68	s	St'kholm	5	41	c
Barbados	29	84	s	Geneva	19	66	s	Montreal	4	39	fg	Strasb'rg	19	66	s
Barcelona	14	57	f	Gibraltar	18	64	s	Moscow	1	34	sn	Sydney	21	70	s
Beirut	17	63	s	Helsinki	6	41	s	Munich	17	63	f	Tangier	22	72	f
Belgrade	17	63	s	Hong K	18	64	c	Nairobi	-	-		Tel Aviv	20	68	s
Berlin	8	46	s	Innsbruck	18	64	f	Naples	17	63	s	Tenerife	22	72	s
Bermuda	19	66	f	Istanbul	17	61	s	N Delhi	28	82	s	Tokyo	14	55	c
Biarritz	13	55	c	Jeddah	26	79	f	N York	20	68	f	Toronto	-8	21	sn
Borde'x	13	55	c	Jo'burg	21	70	f	Nice	18	61	s	Tunis	21	70	f
Brussels	14	57	f	Karachi	-	-		Oslo	4	39	c	Valencia	21	70	f
Budapst	13	55	s	L Palmas	23	73	s	Paris	17	63	s	Vanc'ver	10	50	r
B Aires	28	82	s	Le Touet	13	55	f	Peking	17	63	f	Venice	-	-	
Cairo	19	66	s	Lisbon	23	73	s	Perth	22	72	s	Vienna	12	54	f
Cape Tn	-	-		Locarno	17	63	s	Prague	11	52	f	Warsaw	7	45	f
Chicago	-3	27	s	L Angels	20	68	s	Reykjavik	5	41	d	Wash'ton	21	70	f
Ch'church	14	57	-	Luxembg	15	59	f	Rhodes	17	63	s	Wel'gton	16	61	f
Cologne	13	55	c	Luxor	23	73	s	Rio de J	-	-		Zurich	19	66	s

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available



Changes to the chart below from noon: high G will expand northwards; lows M and R will move northeast and start to fill; low S will edge southeast and fill



TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	5:06	6.48	5:24	6.45	Leith	8:00	4.72	8:20	4.57
Aberdeen	4:49	3.68	5:19	3.57	Liverpool	2:21	8.16	2:46	7.94
Avonmouth	10:25	11.11	10:34	10.96	Lowestoft	0:54	2.23	1:07	2.18
Belfast	2:33	3.35	2:57	3.10	Margate	3:02	4.82	3:18	4.25
Cardiff	10:17	10.38	10:27	10.48	Milford Haven	8:37	5.77	8:52	5.73
Devonport	8:57	4.67	9:16	4.72	Newquay	8:36	5.48	8:56	5.39
Dover	2:06	5.94	2:34	5.78	Oban	9:00	3.19	9:06	3.28
Dublin	3:05	3.84	3:25	3.47	Penzance	8:07	4.89	8:28	4.54
Falmouth	8:33	4.15	8:57	4.31	Portland	9:45	1.48	9:51	1.33
Glasgow	4:23	4.36	4:47	3.92	Portsmouth	2:32	4.26	2:50	4.18
Harwich	3:01	3.59	3:14	3.49	Shoreham	2:07	5.46	2:30	5.03
Holyhead	1:34	4.89	2:03	4.68	Southampton	2:02	4.13	2:25	4.09
Hull	9:34	8.51	10:01	8.17	Swansea	9:49	10.03	9:57	9.90
Ilfracombe	9:16	7.55	9:27	7.48	Tees	7:19	4.59	7:32	4.45
King's Lynn	9:46	5.50	10:06	5.26	Wilton-on-Nze	2:59	3.84	3:20	3.75

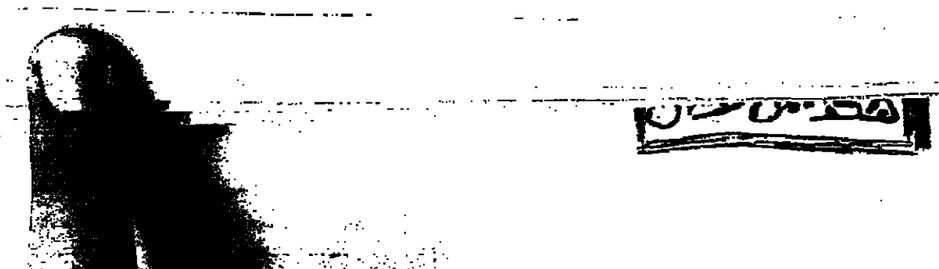
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Sun rises: 6.28 am
Sun sets: 7.41 pm
Moon sets 1.19 am
Moon rises 10.02 am

First quarter April 8

London 7.41 pm to 6.24 am
Bristol 7.51 pm to 6.34 am
Edinburgh 8.00 pm to 6.29 am
Manchester 7.53 pm to 6.28 am
Penzance 8.01 pm to 6.47 am

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هكذا من الأصل



ANATOLE KALETSKY 27

Could Britain pull out of Europe?



BOOKS 34, 35

Rachel Cusk on the new Victoria Glendinning



SPORT 38-44

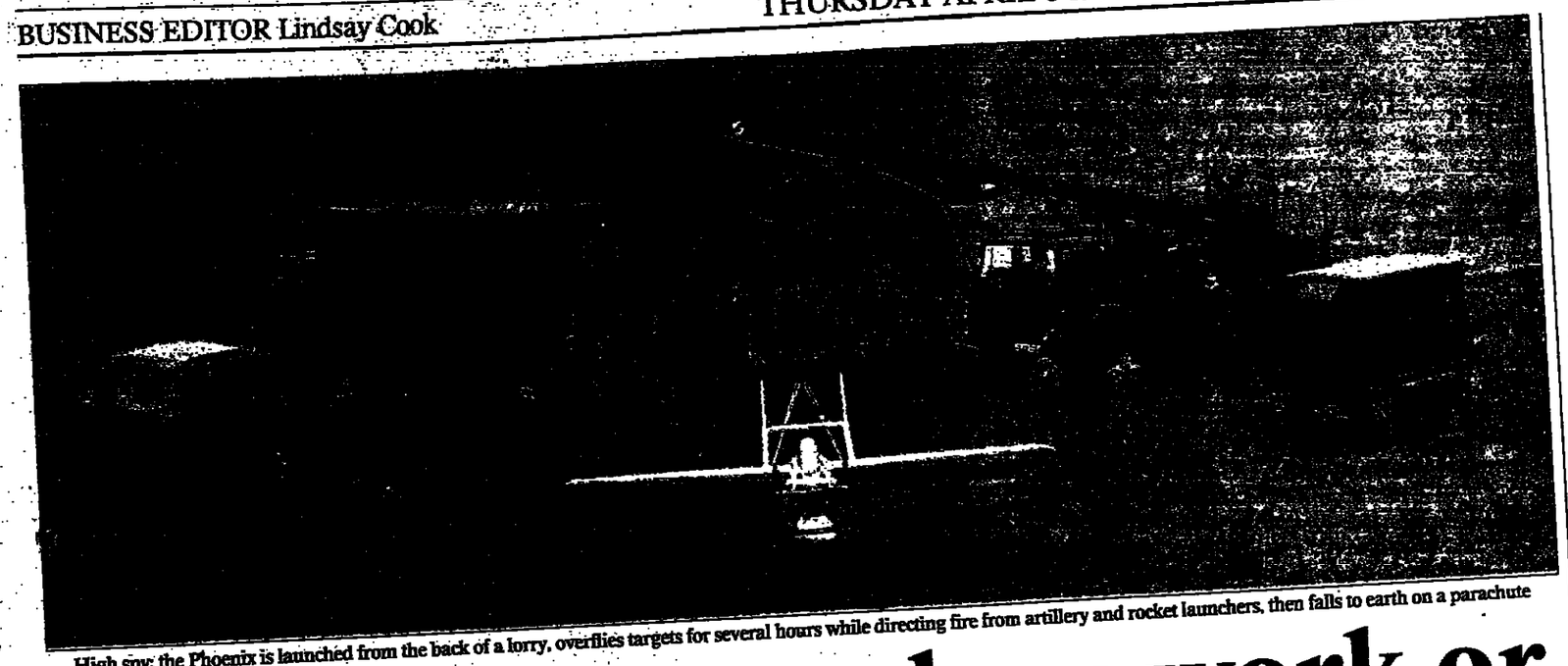
Faldo back on course for third Masters title

GEOFF BROWN ON THE NEW FILMS
Arts 31-33

THE TIMES

THURSDAY APRIL 6 1995

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook



High spy: the Phoenix is launched from the back of a lorry, overflies targets for several hours while directing fire from artillery and rocket launchers, then falls to earth on a parachute

City lawyer on BCCI charge

By Jon Ashworth

A PARTNER in Simmons & Simmons, one of the City's top law firms, has been indicted by American authorities on charges of suppressing evidence relating to the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) inquiry.

David Sandy, 40, faces up to eight years in prison for his alleged attempts to obstruct the BCCI investigation. Six other people, including four Simmons & Simmons partners, are accused of participating in the alleged conspiracy, but Mr Sandy alone has been charged. He faces two felony counts of tampering with physical evidence and a misdemeanor count of conspiracy in the fifth degree. The felonies each carry a maximum prison term of up to four years.

The indictment charges that Mr Sandy illegally concealed computer-disk and printed versions of the business diary of Zafar Iqbal, the former chief executive officer of BCCI subsequently jailed for his part in the affair. In the diary, Iqbal summarised numerous conversations and transactions he had with BCCI officials and bank auditors — information important to the BCCI investigation.

Robert Morgenthau, Manhattan District Attorney, said that deliberate destruction and concealment of evidence was a grave matter, and Mr Sandy would be prosecuted "to the full extent of the law".

Simmons & Simmons declined to comment last night. Mr Sandy has declined to appear in New York voluntarily to face proceedings, and steps are now under way to extradite him.

The indictment is a blow to Simmons & Simmons, which represented BCCI's majority shareholders in London. The evidence shows that these shareholders were unaware of Mr Sandy's alleged activities.

Make spy plane work or face action, GEC told

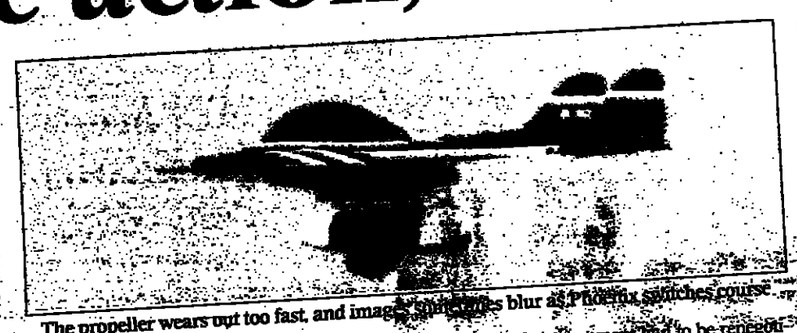
By Ross Tieman

THE Ministry of Defence has given GEC a year to make its Phoenix remote-controlled surveillance aircraft work properly, at its own expense, or face cancellation of the £230 million contract.

If Britain's second-biggest defence contractor fails to deliver, the MoD will sue to recover £170 million of taxpayers' money spent on the plane, now six years behind schedule. While GEC struggles to ensure that the machine no longer breaks upon landing, the MoD will meet sales teams from overseas manufacturers to discuss purchasing a rival system.

The MoD strategy, announced yesterday in a Commons written reply by Roger Freeman, Procurement Minister, is designed to end mounting embarrassment over the miniature spy plane.

He said: "We believe that, provided the remaining technical problems can be overcome within an acceptable timescale, the Phoenix system will provide a cost-effective means of meeting the Army's need."



The propeller wears out too fast, and images [illegible] blur as Phoenix switches course

Lord Weinstock, GEC managing director, and Peter Gershon, managing director of GEC-Marconi Avionics, which is developing Phoenix, have told the MoD they will commit substantial extra resources and are confident of making it work.

Problems with the spy plane, now under development for ten years, have tarnished the reputation of GEC. They have also exposed the weakness of MoD supervision.

Phoenix was one of the first fixed-price procurement contracts let during a switch away from cost-plus purchasing arrangements. But in its search for better value for money, the MoD failed to make sure it had enough information to ensure the contractor was making good progress, and did not enforce many of its own contractual rights to supervision. As a result, the agreement had to be renegotiated in 1993, when the MoD recognised the validity of a series of GEC counter-claims.

MoD officials insist that they have learnt lessons about the need to monitor fixed-price contracts. They also insist that GEC is not being let off the hook. One said: "If they fail to deliver a satisfactory system to us, we will then sue them for all of the money." Some £170 million has been spent so far on developing the system, which the MoD believes is far more flexible than rival Israeli, French and American systems.

According to MoD sources, the radar and thermal imaging systems work well. But the aircraft, built under sub-contract by Flight Refuelling, has to land on its back to avoid damaging the surveillance systems. This leads to frequent breakage. However, GEC-Marconi engineers believe they now have a solution to the damage problem. They plan to install a car-style airbag to cushion the impact.

Both GEC and the MoD believe Phoenix will have great potential in export markets if it can be made to work. But GEC's credibility as a prime contractor is once more at stake. The company has already been blamed for the failure of the Nimrod early warning system eight years ago, abandoned after costing £900 million, and delays in developing the Foxhunter radar system for Tornado fighters.

Pennington, page 25

DTI to help ailing firms

By Robert Miller

AILING companies are to be given a 28-day breathing space to try to save their businesses and protect as many jobs as possible under government proposals published yesterday. Banks and other lenders will no longer be able to pull the rug from under borrowers without giving five days' written notice.

Under the terms of the new rescue plan, directors of a company in financial difficulty will be able to approach an insolvency practitioner for advice on whether it is feasible to save the business. If the practitioner believes there is a reasonable prospect of putting together a rescue plan and adequate funding is available then documents can be filed in court. The 28-day moratorium will begin immediately.

The proposals, put forward by the Trade Department, were flagged in November's Budget when Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, said: "During the recent recession businesses, and particularly small ones, were too often being closed down by their creditors and jobs lost before rescue options had been properly explained."

Announcing a final consultation period on the proposals in Parliament, Jonathan Evans, Corporate Affairs Minister, said: "This will give companies in financial difficulty temporary protection from their creditors during which they could put together a rescue plan for agreement by creditors. The scheme also proposes various safeguards to protect lenders and other creditors and to discourage abuse."

During the moratorium, directors will be allowed to manage their businesses but only under supervision of an insolvency practitioner. Provided creditors agree, the temporary protection can be extended for a further two months.

The Society of Practitioners of Insolvency said it would be seeking further clarification from the DTI on the precise level of supervision required.

Business Today

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	3190.2	(+2.1)
Yield	4.27%	
FT-SE A All share	1560.78	(+1.88)
Nikkei	15882.49	(+251.96)
New York:		
Dow Jones	4199.19	(-2.42)*
S&P Composite	504.77	(-0.47)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	6¼*	(6⅛%)
Long Bond	103⅛*	(102⅞)
Yield	7.37%*	(7.38%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	6⅛%	(6⅛%)
Liffe long gilt future (Jun)	103¹	(103⁰)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6070*	(1.6070)
London:		
$	1.6179	(1.6005)
DM	2.2190	(2.2124)
FFr	7.7780	(7.7510)
SFr	1.8168	(1.8174)
Yen	139.53	(138.21)
£ Index	84.7	(84.8)

$ DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.3810*	(1.3780)
FFr	4.8330*	(4.8220)
SFr	1.1325*	(1.1305)
Yen	86.25*	(86.15)
$ Index	89.2	(89.4)

Tokyo close Yen 86.39

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Jun) $17.50 ($17.25)

GOLD

London close $392.25 ($391.80)

* denotes midday trading price

Co-op cheer

The Co-operative Bank cheered the banking sector yesterday after accompanying record annual profits with a promise to its 3,500 clerical staff that there would be no compulsory redundancies for at least two years as part of a new pay package.

Page 24

ShareLink bid

Charles Schwab, America's biggest retail stockbroking firm, is extending its presence in the United Kingdom with a recommended offer for ShareLink Investment Services, valuing the Birmingham-based telephone share dealing group at £39.7 million.

Page 25, Tempus 26

Barings 'discussed Leeson in January'

By Patricia Tehan and Arthur Leathley

BARINGS executives discussed how to handle the activities of Nick Leeson a month before the bank's collapse, according to internal Barings documents released to MPs yesterday.

The minutes of an internal Barings Assets and Liability Committee (Alco) meeting on Friday, January 27 reveal that the bank was aware of some of activities but not the scale of the trading by Mr Leeson, who ran up huge losses and caused the collapse.

The documents, which destroy any suggestions that Barings was ignorant of the risk Mr Leeson's activities posed, were released to the Treasury Select Committee as it quizzed Eddie George, the Governor of the Bank of England, on the Bank's role in the collapse. Mr George admitted that Barings had not told the Bank, as it was compelled to by law, that more than 25 per cent of its capital had been transferred overseas.

The executives at the meeting — Geoffrey Barnett, Geoffrey Broadhurst, Tony Hawes, the treasurer, Richard Katz, George Maclean, head of banking, and Peter Norris, head of investment banking — discussed their concerns about some of the Leeson positions.

Their strategy was to order Mr Leeson to limit his trading immediately. "There should be no increase in the Nikkei position beyond this level. If the market rises then he should look for opportunities to cut the position. He may increase his Japanese government bond/Euroyen position up to an agreed amount of available initial margin. His intra-day limit has been exended to 500 Osaka lots. If the market falls he is authorised to leave position to expiry in March."

Mr George was questioned about the documents by Brian Sedgemore, Labour MP for Hackney South and Shoreditch. He said he did not know about the documents, and that the Bank had "no means of guaranteeing that every piece of relevant information is made known to us".

Mr George defended the Bank against accusations that the inquiry into Barings was taking too long. He confirmed that the investigation would not be completed until June. However, he said the Bank would not stand in the way of ING, the new owner, sacking staff in advance of the Bank's inquiry.

Accountants plan merger to form larger joint body

By Robert Bruce

PLANS to create a new UK accounting body dominated by accountants in business and industry have been unveiled.

The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales and the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants would both cease to exist and a new body, whose name is still the subject of intense negotiation, would be created.

It could comprise 140,000 accountants, of which 90,000 would be in industry and business. Existing members of the old bodies would retain their present titles but new members as they qualified would be designated either as chartered accountants, for those qualifying on the practising side of the profession, or as chartered management accountants on the industry and business side.

The central concept, said Roger Lawson, English ICA president, was "one new body with two titles", although the body would be governed by one council. Separate education systems would operate in parallel.

The new body would also "recruit, train and examine overseas and have a strong international perspective". It would be "both world-class and and worldwide". The two bodies are currently carrying out market research among their members and the aim is to bring full proposals to a series of membership votes in early 1996.

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Pennington, page 26

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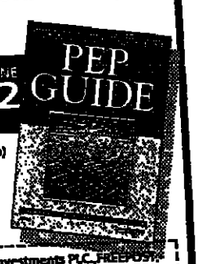
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Barclays chairman joins the £500,000 club



Buxton: rise of 18.6%

By Patricia Tehan
Banking Correspondent

ANDREW BUXTON, chairman of Barclays Bank, joined the elite band of directors earning more than £500,000 a year in 1994, with an 18.6 per cent pay rise to £523,000.

Mr Buxton also made a paper profit of £135,149 after exercising options on 55,389 shares, according to the bank's annual report, sent out to shareholders yesterday.

The highest-paid director was David Band, chief executive of BZW, Barclays' investment banking arm. His pay actually fell by 45 per cent to £776,000 from £1.4 million, after BZW profits more than halved to £242 million. As a result, his bonus was halved to £300,000, and the allocation of Barclays shares to him under the bank's long-term share scheme fell from £580,000 to £240,000.

Barclays' next highest-paid director last year was Martin Taylor, the chief executive, who received a total of £710,000, including a £500,000 basic salary and a bonus of £169,000. The bonus included a guaranteed £150,000 bonus for his first year and £19,000 from the staff profit-sharing scheme.

The report also showed that Mr Taylor was paid £204,000 in 1993, comprising £24,000 fees in November and December 1993 while he was in his old job at Courtaulds Textiles, and £180,000 compensation for Courtaulds Textiles share-options that were bought out by Barclays.

Oliver Stocken, the finance director, saw his total pay fall from £439,000 in 1993, when he was on a BZW contract, to £362,000 last year. His basic salary has been increased from £190,000 to £250,000 this year, when he moved onto a Barclays contract.

A Barclays spokeswoman said: "In 1994 the Barclays group achieved record profitability and the strongest balance sheet for more than 10 years. The remuneration committee felt that this should be reflected in the remuneration of executive directors." The bank has shown the pay of individual directors in its annual report for the first time.

Barclays saw its profits increase 181 per cent last year to £1.86 billion.

Unlike NatWest, Barclays has not shown how much it pays each of its non-executives. Sir Denys Henderson, chairman of ICI, who chairs the remuneration committee, and Sir Nigel Mobbs, chairman and chief executive of Slough Estates, who chairs Barclays' audit committee, are likely to be among the higher-paid non-executives. The highest-paid non-executive director received between £60,001 and £65,000.

The total emoluments of all directors fell by 18 per cent last year to £3,729 million, mostly as a result of lower bonuses. However, their basic salaries increased by 9 per cent to £1.79 million.

Jobs pledge as Co-op Bank sets record profits

BY ROBERT MILLER

CO-OPERATIVE BANK yesterday celebrated record annual profits by promising its 3,500 clerical staff that there would be no compulsory redundancies for at least two years as part of a new pay package.

The Co-op Bank jobs deal was welcome news for the banking sector and comes just days after a leading banker predicted that one in five bank workers would lose jobs in the next few years. Sir Brian Pitman, chief executive of Lloyds Bank, estimated that 75,000 jobs would go, on top of the 90,000 lost since 1989. But Terry Thomas, managing director of the Co-op Bank, which announced a 55 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £27.5 million for 1994, believes that Sir Brian has underestimated the scale of banking job losses. He predicts they could be nearer to 150,000.

Mr Thomas said: "There will be a massive shake-out between now and the turn of the century, but it could happen even sooner. The present number of bank branches cannot be sustained because who's going to pay for them? Certainly not the customer. And if they are asked to pay, then it will be good news for us as they could switch to our telephone banking service which is open 24-hours a day, 365 days a year."

The Co-op Bank, which has nearly 140 branches, has shed 1,000 jobs since 1990. But after yesterday's guarantee of no compulsory redundancies, Mr Thomas added that the bank mioght recruit more staff if present business trends continued. The jobs promise, however, will not extend to the bank's senior management. Mr Thomas said: "We've got to perform or we are out, and if the staff fail, that is our fault, not theirs."

Bifu, the banking, insurance and finance union, welcomed the Co-op Bank's 1994 figures and said that the bank's pledge to its staff came at a time when most of the major banks were closing high street branches to boost profits even further. Geof Luton, the union's assistant secretary, added: "Cutting outlets means cutting service. The Co-operative Bank has proved that this is not the way to run a business."

Mr Thomas said the bank's ethical stance, which rejects business customers who do not measure up to a set of standards, led to further new accounts being opened in both the personal and corporate sectors. He added: "Many charities and voluntary organisations brought substantial deposits to the bank with total average retail deposits up 19 per cent year-on-year."

The Co-op Bank's operating income rose 5 per cent to £238 million while bad debt provisions fell £6.5 million to £32 million. The bank's "Free for Life" Visa Gold card last year became the most widely available of its kind throughout Europe.

Increase in unit labour costs alarms CBI

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BUSINESS leaders have urged industry to take action to increase productivity and control the cost of employment in the light of new pay figures which, while showing settlements falling back, suggest that unit labour costs are rising.

Ministers, industry and pay analysts will study closely the latest figures from the Confederation of British Industry's pay databank, which suggest that pay awards in manufacturing and the service sector are slipping back. Though latest government earnings figures showed a similar movement, other independent pay surveys have suggested that wage deals are still rising.

The CBI said its survey of settlements showed that in the three months to the end of February, pay deals in manufacturing were provisionally running at 2.9 per cent. This compares with 3 per cent in the three months to January, and with the peak of 3.2 per cent in the three months to the end of November. Manufacturers say that their inability to increase prices is the main downward pressure on pay.

The CBI said pay deals in the service sector are falling back even more sharply, dropping to 3.2 per cent in the first quarter of this year, against 3.8 per cent in the final three months of 1994. Taking the two sectors together, the databank shows that nearly two-thirds of all deals are at or below 3 per cent, with a fifth running at 3.1 to 4 per cent.

But in spite of the pay figures, the CBI last night issued a warning about rising unit labour costs. It said they had started to move up while they were still falling in all Britain's major competitor countries, because in Britain the rate of increase in manufacturing productivity had fallen and was now being outstripped by rises in earnings.

Speaking after a meeting of the confederation's governing council, CBI leaders confirmed their opposition to Labour's plan for a statutory national minimum wage, but said that they are carrying out a fresh study to examine its impact on jobs and pay differentials.

The CBI said it was not convinced about the principle of a minimum wage, although its leaders indicated that they might well look more favourably on a minimum wage set at a level aimed at relieving real poverty. However, adjustment of in-work benefits might be a more appropriate solution.

CBI leaders welcomed Labour moves, signalled this week by Harriet Harman, Shadow Employment Secretary, suggesting Labour is ready to modify its plans for a compulsory training levy.

☐ Pay increases for managers are rising, a new survey suggests. The Reward survey of senior pay shows that though pay increases for managers in the year to February averaged 2.8 per cent, the level of increase in the last four months is 3.2 per cent.

ASADOUR GUZELIAN



Far reaching: Christopher Cook, left, and Christopher Brown saw exports rise 72 per cent

Export lift for David Brown

BY CARL MORTISHED

EXPORTS are driving up profits at David Brown, the gears and hydraulics maker.

Overseas sales account for the majority of David Brown's revenue with exports up 72 per cent, largely because of success in securing work on capital projects in America and the Far East.

The company, which has joint chief executives in Christopher Brown and Christopher Cook, shrugged off restructuring costs at a new subsidiary and boosted profits 15 per cent to £12.5 million, in spite of a flat UK market.

The weak demand and the restructuring of Hamworthy, the transmissions business acquired in 1993, caused operating margins to fall two points last year.

Brown's order book in January surged to £116 million from £67 million in the previous year. Derek Kingsbury, chairman, said that margins were still constrained by market forces, although integration of the new businesses would bring improvement from efficiencies. The company is raising the dividend 8 per cent to 6.9p.

Tempus, page 26

Privatised water pours on cost

BY OUR BUSINESS STAFF

PRIVATE companies charge substantially more for delivering water to the tap than public water authorities in the UK, while salaries and operating profits have surged in the private sector.

A report published today by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (Cipfa) says private English and Welsh water companies have higher operating costs for water provision and sewerage services than their local authority-run counterparts in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

In England and Wales, where 10 privatised water authorities joined 21 existing private water companies in 1989, a cubic metre of water delivered to the tap cost up to 73p in the year to March 31, 1994. In Scotland, where local authorities run water supply, the same volume cost 16p.

Private companies' operating profits have risen by more than 50 per cent since privatisation. Some directors' salaries have increased several times over. The European Union's more exacting standards of water purity and sewage treatment have been used to justify higher charges. However, Cipfa figures show that total spending on UK sewerage systems fell by 14.6 per cent, after adjusting for inflation, between 1990-91 and 1993-94.

While Scotland scored well on low-cost water supply, public authorities there recorded both the lowest costs for removing sewage in the UK and, with charges of up to £58 per person, the highest. Northern Ireland charged £23.

Peter Vass, research director at Cipfa's Centre for the Study of Regulated Industries, said that factors such as geography and varying rainfall "can explain much of the reported variation in costs". But he acknowledged widespread concern at the levels of profitability achieved by some private companies. "The regulator [Ofwat] is now looking to companies to share increased profits between customers and shareholders," he said.

Last year, voters in Strathclyde overwhelmingly rejected privatising their water services. The Scottish Office, like the Northern Ireland Office, is now seeking private capital through the Government's Private Finance Initiative to fund improvements.

OFT action sought over debt advice

BY LIZ DOLAN

THE Consumers Association has urged the Office of Fair Trading to look into the conduct of Union Finance, a Southend-on-Sea company that claims to have helped more than 1,000 homebuyers with negative equity.

The association says Union Finance is charging borrowers £300 apiece for information that is misleading.

An association researcher who asked the company for help with solving her £14,000 negative equity was advised to hand in the keys to the flat and walk away. She was told the debt would be covered by a special insurance policy (a mortgage indemnity guarantee, or MIG), taken out when she and her husband bought the flat.

But a QC told the association that the policy covered the lender for any shortfall. It did not allow the borrower to renege on the debt.

Paul Kitchen, senior editor of *Which?*, said: "There are ways to tackle some of the problems of negative equity, but giving £300 plus VAT to Union Finance is not one of them. The legal loophole it claims to have discovered probably doesn't exist."

Seagram may buy into Hollywood

BY ERIC REGULY

SEAGRAM, the spirits group, is expected to announce the sale of its stake in Du Pont, North America's biggest chemical producer, for about $10 billion today. The speculation, not denied by Seagram, is that it will use the cash to buy a majority stake in MCA, the Hollywood studio that made *Jurassic Park* and *Schindler's List*.

An insider has confirmed that Du Pont will buy back 164 million shares — or 24.4 per cent of Du Pont — that have been held by Seagram since the early 1980s. The announcement is likely to follow today's meeting of Du Pont's board of directors.

The cost is not known, although the shares are expected to be bought at the current market price. Du Pont traded yesterday at $62¾, up $1¼; Seagram was at $28¼, down ¼.

The sale will eliminate Seagram's single biggest source of earnings. Dividend and equity income from Du Pont typically account for more than half Seagram's net income, which totalled $736 million in its latest financial year.

Edgar Bronfman Jr., chief executive of Seagram, engineered the purchase of 15 per cent of Time Warner, America's leading media conglomerate, in 1992. Buying MCA, which includes Universal Pictures, Universal Television and Geffen Records, could trigger a long-anticipated restructuring of Hollywood, which is now dominated by foreign investors.

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Morag Preston looks at the track's potential

Brands Hatch changes driver

BRANDS Hatch Leisure, the motor racing operator and owner of the famous racetrack, was bought by Apax Partners, the venture capitalists, yesterday for £15.5 million.

The natural amphitheatre that was once Brands Hatch farm was first used by cyclists in 1926 for racing. In 1964, Jim Clark in his Lotus 25 won the first Grand Prix there. For years it alternated as the venue of the Formula One Grand Prix with Silverstone, before Nigel Mansell won the last Brands Hatch Grand Prix in 1986.

Nicola Foulston, 27, will continue as managing director. Her father, John Foulston, a self-made computer millionaire and racing fanatic, bought Brands Hatch, Snetterton and Oulton Park for £5.25 million in 1986. He was killed at Silverstone the following year. Miss Foulston was appointed commercial director of Brands, and in 1990 was made chief executive.

Jon Moulton, director of Apax Partners, sees potential for continued growth through subsidiary projects. Miss Foulston's ambition is to lure the British Grand Prix back, but Mr Moulton wants to concentrate on corporate hospitality and leisure facilities. "Grand Prix is not a very profitable business," he says. "We would be happy to have Formula One, but only if it brought in as much money as touring car racing. More can be done in all areas, including driving schools, test facilities for manufacturers, and pop concerts. This is an opportunity for business to roar away."

The Brands Hatch Leisure Group, funded by £8 million from Apax Partners and a £7.5 million facility from the Bank of Scotland, is the largest promoter of motorsport in Europe. During 1995, the three original tracks, plus Caldwell Park in Norfolk, will host 162 events.

The buy-in is being led by Adrian Chambers, from Europa Freight Corporation, and Peter Rickitt, from Rickitt Mitchell & Partners, the corporate finance boutique. Mr Chambers is a former racing driver and Mr Rickitt enjoys thrashing his Aston Martin round Oulton Park.



The way it was: Graham Hill on a test run at Brands Hatch in 1967

Exports boost Laird to record £48m

LAIRD GROUP, the automotive components and industrial products company, saw underlying profits rise 44 per cent to a record £47.7 million last year on the economic recovery in continental Europe. The group beat the forecast it set at its rights issue last November by £1.7 million on 18 per cent higher turnover of £734 million during the year with £30 million of the growth coming from acquisitions. Laird said demand for its plastic mouldings and cables for computers had been particularly strong. The window and door component manufacturing business also performed particularly well.

The company is paying a final 6.9p dividend, making 11.3p for the year, a rise of 6 per cent, payable on June 9. Laird's rights issue last year brought in £68 million for further investment and the group ended the year with net cash of £20.6 million. Laird invested £37.8 million in new plant during 1994 and has just signed a new £100 million seven-year loan for future development. Tempus, page 26

Reg Vardy pays £15m

REG VARDY, the motor distributor, announced the acquisition of nine car dealerships for £15.34 million yesterday. The acquisition includes six dealerships owned by Automotive & Financial Group (AFG), formerly controlled by Octav Botnar, and now owned by the Barclay twins, Frederick and David. Vardy is also acquiring three BMW dealerships from Graham Goodman for £9.45 million. The AFG acquisition, comprising dealerships in Scotland and the North, is valued at £5.9 million. Separately, AFG announced a restructuring of its business, which includes 47 outlets nationwide, and a change of name to Caledonia Motor Group.

GM to sell rental group

GENERAL MOTORS is to sell National Car Rental System for an estimated $1 billion. The car hire franchise, which includes Europcar Interrent and Murray's Rent-a-Car in Britain, will be owned by a group of investors led by William Lobeck, the former president of Chrysler's car rental division. The sale is part of GM's strategy to refocus on its car and truck making divisions and divest non-core businesses. National had been losing money when GM acquired a 45 per cent stake in 1988, and, subsequently, full ownership. In recent years, executives say, it has made healthy profits. National will retain its 6,400 staff, and its contract to buy its rental fleet from GM.

Vision valued at £30m

VISION GROUP, the specialist cameras maker, will be valued at about £30 million when it comes to the stock market via a placing of shares later this month. Based in Edinburgh, the company is raising £4.5 million to finance expansion. The shares, priced at 97p, begin trading on April 12. In 1994 the company incurred losses of £722,000 on turnover of £1.15 million, reflecting development costs. The placing is sponsored by Albert E. Sharp, the broker. Meanwhile, shares in Coral Products are being placed at 60p, valuing the video cassette boxes maker at £9.2 million. The company will raise £1.59 million, mainly to repay bank borrowings.

More cuts at C&J Clark

THE continuing reorganisation of C&J Clark, the privately owned footwear company, cost a further £8.4 million in 1994 after costs of £6.6 million in 1993. Roger Pedder, chairman, said the cutbacks will continue this year as action is taken to deal with excess production capacity and high costs. The latest charge held back profits before tax for the year at £19.4 million, compared with £20.8 million previously. But the company is lifting the annual dividend by 13 per cent, with a second interim dividend of 3.5p a share making a total of 6.5p. At the trading level, profits edged forward to £31.9 million from £30.5 million.

Clydeport advances

CLYDEPORT, the former Clyde Port Authority, which secured a stock market listing last December, expects to spend £3.2 million on environmental improvements this year after last year's investment of £1.2 million at Glasgow and Greenock, Strathclyde. In 1994, profits were £5.6 million before tax, rising from £2.45 million. They were bolstered by a £1.45 million gain on the sale of 232 acres at Braehead, Glasgow, for retail development. Earnings were 11.16p a share, compared with 5.63p. A final dividend of 1p a share, in line with the flotation forecast, makes a notional total of 3.51p. The shares, offered at 133p, rose 2p to 173p yesterday.

CCR buys Nachos

CITY CENTRE RESTAURANTS (CCR) is acquiring the Nachos chain of Mexican restaurants, all located in London, from New York New York for £5.4 million. CCR expects the business to contribute profits of £600,000 in its first year of ownership, trading alongside the company's existing Chiquito operation. CCR, whose interests also include the Garfunkels and Caffe Uno restaurants, reported a rise in profits to £14.1 million before tax in 1994 from £12.6 million previously. Earnings were 5.01p a share, (4.52p). The final dividend of 1.55p a share, due June 8, makes a total of 2p (1.78p).

Cordiant raises $40m in US

CORDIANT, the advertising agency formerly known as Saatchi & Saatchi, has sold the Minneapolis offices of Campbell Mithun Esty Inc (CME) to Interpublic, the American agency, for $40 million.

The sale will result in a loss on disposal of about £13 million through the write-off of goodwill, but will help to reduce Cordiant's bank debt.

CME's offices in New York, Houston and continental Europe have already been absorbed in the Cordiant group. Only its British agency operates as a stand-alone business. In 1994 CME's Minneapolis businesses generated revenues of $52 million.

[redacted]

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.27	2.10
Austria Sch	16.64	15.14
Belgium Fr	48.68	44.38
Canada $	2.340	2.180
Cyprus Cypr	0.751	0.696
Denmark Kr	9.40	8.60
Finland Mrk	7.45	6.80
France Fr	8.21	7.56
Germany Dm	2.38	2.17
Greece Dr	378.00	353.00
Hong Kong $	13.04	12.04
Ireland Pr	1.05	0.97
Israel	5.2882	4.5082
Italy Lira	2845.00	2660.00
Japan Yen	159.50	137.50
Malta	0.600	0.545
Netherls Gld	2.641	2.411
Norway Kr	10.58	9.73
Portugal Esc	246.00	227.50
S Africa Rd	nil	5.84
Spain Pta	210.00	197.00
Sweden Kr	12.35	11.55
Switzerland Fr	1.98	1.78
Turkey Lira	refer	64992.0
USA $	1.701	1.571

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☐ The case for Cabinet quarantine ☐ The City fights its patch ☐ GEC's credibility on the line

Who minds the ministers?

☐ IN a week that saw two Members of Parliament escape with mild slaps on the wrist after being found willing to accept extraneous payments, it would seem perverse for the National Audit Office to persecute a humble peer of the realm for seeking to earn an honest crust. Lord Wakeham, architect of the privatisation of the energy industry, was merely following in the footsteps of Lords Tebbit and Young and Sir Peter Walker in hooking up with an employer he had previously done business with during his spell in office.

Lord Wakeham, as part of his brief to bring wider ownership and financial discipline to the publicly owned energy sector, sold the electricity industry for some orders of magnitude less than it was worth, with the help of Rothschild. He then went on largely to obliterate the British coal industry, and it is this last achievement that has been brought to the notice of Sir John Bourn at the NAO. Sir John has, well, not quite said that he will act, but indicated that he might be prepared to consider looking at acting, and so forth, after sterling pressure from Stephen Byers, an Opposition MP.

Where Lord Wakeham distinguishes himself from his predecessors is that the involvement of his new employers at NM Rothschild with the task he set them had not ended when he climbed on board. The Rothschild taxi meter, which started ticking in 1991 when the bank embarked on privatisating British Coal, ticks yet and will until the last asset is sold, and an expensive fare it has proved.

Mr Byers is also worried about the way the job was handed to Rothschild. The Government is not saying if the bank put in the lowest bid, which is pretty conclusive evidence that it did not. It is inconceivable that Lord Wakeham, all those years ago, pushed the job Rothschild's way in the hopes of what is, by City standards, a fairly modest salary now. Indeed, given the sheer number of former senior politicians and civil servants cluttering up the expensive dining rooms at New Court, his eventual arrival there was probably a racing certainty whatever he did at the Department of Energy.

Sir John's acknowledgement of Mr Byers' efforts is couched in tones that suggest eventual action may be limited. All he has said is that his inquiry into coal privatisation indeed includes the appointment of advisers. But his intervention serves to throw a welcome spotlight on an area of public life that continues to cause much disquiet.

It also makes all the more relevant the suggestion made to the Nolan Committee by a brace of top Tories earlier this year that the way around such embarrassments in future might be a two-year quarantine between a minister's departure and his arrival at his new post. In Lord Wakeham's particular case, for the sake of argument, this two-year period might be deemed to start to run whenever Rothschilds eventually finishes the mammoth task he has set them.

Paving anytown's steets with gold

☐ THE CITY Corporation is becoming ever more active in its attempts to persuade any incoming Labour government to leave it alone, along with the industry it represents. Michael Cassidy, the corporation's policy chairman, concedes: "We are getting more uncomfortable about being the scapegoat". After the LSE's

PENNINGTON



City Research Project, which examined London's strength and virtues as a world financial centre, John Kay's London Economics has been commissioned to convince a sceptical nation that the City is good for British industry too. The Project was trailed round the world in a jetset roadshow, but was undermined by BZW moving to Docklands, a subject of near paranoia round Guildhall. The Lord Mayor will hawk the new eight-part study round the provinces in a progress worthy of William Cobbett.

Judging from the first paper, on company formation and financing, Mr Kay will be at his most skilful. Taking the usual adverse comparison with Germany head-on, he argues that Britain's lack of that dense *Mittelstand* of manufacturing companies credited with Germany's better economic performance is nothing to do with lack of finance. So many more financing options are open to British firms that they grow faster into big firms or are taken over by them on terms more favourable than they could finance themselves. Hence, according to London Economics, the dearth of medium-sized firms is the mirror image of Britain's strength in bigger companies.

Of the world's 500 largest companies, by sales, 41 are UK-based and 32 German, although the German economy is twice as big. The difference would be greater by value. And there are six times as many quoted companies in the UK. The structure of business is therefore affected by the easier availability of equity finance, from management buyout to rights issue, but if firms prefer long-term and fixed-interest borrowing, that is plentiful here too now that inflation has eased.

Possibly. But even New Labour will be hard to convince that Britain will be better off if yet more financial power is concentrated in the Square Mile.

Heat is on for the Phoenix

☐ HOW is it that GEC can build a sophisticated head-up display unit for America's F16 and F22 fighters, yet be unable to make a spy plane that can land without damage?

On any Sunday afternoon over the South Downs, the air is abuzz with small, remote controlled planes performing acrobatics. The same planes, the same enthusiastic owners, week after week.

Such reliability has so far eluded the Phoenix, an eight-foot spy aircraft developed by GEC-Marconi to direct the army's rockets and artillery shells to their targets. The high-tech elements of the machine perform outstandingly. But GEC has so far failed to get all this delicate machinery back to earth without breaking it. The company's Heath Robinson answer, in the shape of a modified car airbag, is now in hand. Yet it is astonishing that both the Ministry of Defence and GEC could allow a £230 million, fixed price contract to fall six years behind schedule, and still not perform to specification.

Leading edge defence contracts are invariably challenging. Victory in battle today depends upon development of costly weapons systems that outperform existing technologies controlled by the enemy. In any industry that uses cutting edge technology, some projects are going to struggle or even fail.

Yet to win its own battles with rival contractors, and make a profit on fixed-price programmes, GEC must sharpen its management. Phoenix must rise from its own ashes. GEC's credibility as well as its cash depends upon it.

Merger accounting

☐ DEVISING a name for the merged ICAEW/CIMA certainly taxed ingenuity at the English institute's dinner last night. "Tomorrow the World" might fit the mood. The proper ambition to be "world-class", ditching domestic jealousies, unfortunately recalls a slogan used by ICI for a great leap forward that left it split into two smaller companies. But if the ICAEW's members vote for this merger, anything is possible.

Americans make £39m agreed bid for ShareLink

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

CHARLES SCHWAB, America's biggest retail stockbroking firm, is extending its presence in the United Kingdom with a recommended offer for ShareLink Investment Services, valuing the Birmingham telephone share dealing group at £39.7 million.

Schwab is offering 235p a share, which compares poorly with ShareLink's 1993 float price of 250p. There is a full loan note alternative and ShareLink directors have given 14.64 per cent irrevocable undertakings to accept the bid, made by Morgan Stanley.

ShareLink is Britain's biggest private investor dealing service, with 600,000 customers and a 15 per cent share of the UK's execution-only private client business. However, it has been hit by the recent slump in trading volumes.

ShareLink shares, which had rallied after the company said that it was in talks that could lead to an offer, jumped 19p to 232p on the bid confirmation, but have seen mixed fortunes since the company was floated in 1993 at 250p. The shares traded above £4 in late 1993 and early last year, but initial euphoria, driven by healthy business levels on the back of privatisation issues, soon faded as depressed market conditions took a grip.

The shares slumped after the early bear market prompted a profit warning last September as turnover dropped sharply and stock market prices fell in volatile and competitive conditions. In November, depressed market conditions and low investor confidence saw ShareLink suffer a pre-tax loss of £468,000 in the six months to September 30 (£3.68 million profit). It made a £500,000 pre-tax loss in the year to March 31, and will give up-to-date details of performance in the offer document to be sent to shareholders.

The proposed deal will reap further rewards for David Jones, ShareLink's founder and chief executive, who has a 14 per cent, £5.4 million stake. Charles Schwab, Schwab's chairman, will become ShareLink chairman, with Mr Jones retaining his post.

Mr Jones said: "The entry of ShareLink into the UK securities industry revolutionised the way in which private investors bought and sold shares. I am confident that our partnership with Schwab will enable us to develop further our market position and take advantage of the significant opportunities available ... We had to look at the future issues facing the company. Markets are becoming more volatile and there is a tremendous amount of change in the UK industry."

Tempus, page 26



CHRIS HARRIS

Fraying profits: Sherwood Group, the garment and lace manufacturer, remained optimistic about future prospects in spite of reporting its first fall in profits since it floated on the stock market in 1986. Jim Telfer, above, is managing director of the group whose pre-tax profits fell to £15.1 million from £18.5 million in the year to December 31 on sales of £166.1 million, up from £152.6 million. David Parker, chairman, described it as a year of reorganisation and consolidation and said that actions taken to improve efficiency would produce benefits in 1995. A final dividend of 2.05p, compared with 1.9p, brings the total payout to 3.2p (2.9p). Shareholders will be paid on May 25.

Investment pays off at Hewden

BY MARTIN BARROW

INVESTMENT in modern machinery at the height of the recession has paid off at Hewden Stuart, the plant-hire group. Yesterday the company reported a rise in 1994 pre-tax profits to £34.79 million from £19.15 million in the previous year.

Hewden Stuart embarked on a programme of investment in autumn 1993, placing substantial orders for equipment for delivery throughout 1994 and into 1995.

Although the new equipment was not fully operational for the 12-month period, turnover in hire operations increased 33.2 per cent to £168 million last year.

Last year alone the company incurred capital expenditure of £68 million, which was financed from working capital.

Earnings per share rose to 3.325p from 2.9p. The final dividend of 2.5p a share, which is due to be paid July 12, makes a total of 3.325p compared with 2.9p. The shares rose 6p to 169p.

Nobo shares slide after warning

SHARES in Nobo Group slumped to 148p from 209p after the supplier of office equipment warned that profits for the year to the end of April would fall significantly below market expectations (Martin Barrow writes).

The company blamed a sharp downturn in trading by its largest subsidiary over the past two months and higher input costs. The collapse in the share price — despite the company's pledge to maintain its final dividend — reduced Nobo's market capitalisation by £11 million to just £26 million.

Granville Davies, the company's own broker, has reduced profit forecasts for the years to the end of April 1995 and April 1996 by £1 million to £2.7 million and £3.5 million respectively.

Aegis returns to Britain and profit

BY MARTIN WALLER

AEGIS, the media combine for much of this decade in French hands, has returned to the black in 1994 in spite of continuing restructuring costs from its financial rescue over the past three years.

Provisions for restructuring of £11.4 million were well below the £60 million set aside over the previous two years. The provisions held pre-tax profits back to £20.1 million in 1994, but this compared with an £18.1 million loss in 1993.

Aegis is now firmly back in British control, to the extent that the City Takeover Panel has confirmed the group is governed by the Takeover Code, said Crispin Davis, the new chief executive.

When Aegis, which owns the Carat media business and has its roots in the Wight Collins Rutherford Scott advertising agency, was domiciled in France, the Panel said the group did not come under its jurisdiction.

But Mr Davis, the new chief executive, said the relocation to London in February was part of the "normalisation" of Aegis, after a period in which the group's financial survival was in doubt.

Underlying profits were £27.4 million, but these included £3 million of write-backs from provisions taken earlier to cover losses in France that were not needed, said Mr Davis.

There is no dividend for 1994, and none in prospect this year. Underlying earnings per share were 2.5p (1.9p).

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Merrydown launches alcoholic lemonade

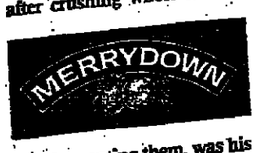
Two Dogs to invade UK

FROM RACHEL BRIDGE IN SYDNEY

MERRYDOWN, the Sussex cider maker, looks set to brew up a storm next month as it begins distributing Australia's favourite new drink, an alcoholic lemonade called Two Dogs, in Britain.

Sales of Two Dogs, which tastes like a soft drink but contains 4.2 per cent alcohol, have rocketed in Australia since it went on the market seven months ago. It already uses up a third of South Australia's entire annual lemon crop and total sales are expected to hit 18 million this year. There have been howls of outrage, however, from anti-alcohol campaigners, who claim that it encourages under-age drinking.

Two Dogs was created by chance. Wondering what to do with an orchard full of unsaleable non-standard-size lemons, Duncan MacGillivray, a South Australian pub owner, decided to try brewing them. The result, after crushing whole lemons



and fermenting them, was his alcoholic lemonade.

Mr MacGillivray admits the success of Two Dogs surprised him. "I was going to be happy for it to be sold in my pub and my friends' pubs," he says. The name was dreamt up in a drunken moment the night before the first keg was to go on sale.

The first 7,000 cases of Two Dogs are due to arrive in the UK next month, and will be distributed by Merrydown throughout the country.

A further 20,000 cases have been earmarked to meet demand over the summer and, if all goes well, Merrydown plans to begin producing the beverage at its site in Sussex from next year.

Mr MacGillivray admits that the British market is an important one for Two Dogs and says he wants to get his sales drive right first time. But what British drinkers will make of the whole idea remains to be seen.

This offer notice, which is published on 6 April 1995 is issued in compliance with the requirements of The International Stock Exchange of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland Limited ("the London Stock Exchange"). It should be read in conjunction with the listing particulars dated 5 April 1995 ("the Listing Particulars") relating to Dumyat Investment Trust PLC ("the Company") which alone contain full details of the Company and the Ordinary Shares. In applying for Ordinary Shares in the Company you will be treated as applying on the basis of the information contained in the Listing Particulars and on the terms and conditions contained therein. Words and expressions defined in the Listing Particulars have the same meanings in this notice. Before deciding to apply for Ordinary Shares you should consider carefully whether they are a suitable investment for you. If you need advice, you should consult your own professional adviser. This offer notice has been approved by the London Stock Exchange pursuant to section 156(1) of the Financial Services Act 1986. Copies of the Listing Particulars are available from Amicable House, 150 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5NQ for a period of 14 days commencing the 6 April 1995.

DUMYAT INVESTMENT TRUST PLC

(Incorporated and registered in Scotland under the Companies Act 1985, No. 156472)

Offers for Subscription of up to 140,000,000 Convertible Annual Dividend Ordinary Shares at 100p per share and up to 35,000,000 Convertible Monthly Dividend Ordinary Shares at 100p per share in each case payable in full on application

sponsored by

Dickson Minto W.S.

Applications from outside the United Kingdom

No person receiving a copy of this offer notice and Application Form in any territory other than the United Kingdom may treat the same as constituting an invitation or offer to him nor should he in any event use such Application Form, unless, in the relevant territory, such an invitation or offer could lawfully be made to him or such Application Form could lawfully be used without contravention of any registration or other legal requirements. It is the responsibility of any person outside the United Kingdom wishing to make an application hereunder to satisfy himself as to full observance of the laws of any relevant territory in connection therewith, including obtaining any requisite governmental or other consents, observing any other formalities requiring to be observed in such territory and paying any issue, transfer or other taxes required to be paid in such territory.

Completed Applications

An Application Form in respect of the Offers for Subscription is set out opposite and a guide on how to complete it is set out below. Completed Application Forms should be returned by post or delivered by hand to The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, Securities Services – Registrars, Owen House, 8 Bankhead Crossway North, Edinburgh EH11 4BR, or by hand to The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, Securities Services – Registrars, 67 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3DL, in each case so as to be received not later than 10.00 a.m. on 30 April 1995.

NOTES ON HOW TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FORM

All applicants must complete Boxes 1, 2, 3 and 4

1. PERSONAL DETAILS
Fill in (in block capitals) in Box 1 the full name and address of the applicant. If this application is being made jointly with other persons, please read Note 6 before completing Box 1. For company applications, please give the registered name and number of the company.

2. APPLICATION TO DUMYAT INVESTMENT TRUST PLC
Fill in (in figures) in either/both boxes in section 2 the number of ADS and/or MDS for which you wish to apply. The initial application must be for a minimum of 3,000 Ordinary Shares, and thereafter all applicants may apply in multiples of 1 Ordinary Share.

3. AMOUNT PAYABLE
Fill in (in figures) in Box 3 the total amount payable at 100p per Ordinary Share.

4. SIGNATURE
The applicant named in Box 1 must date and sign Box 4. The Application Form may be signed by another person on your behalf if that person is duly authorised to do so under a power of attorney. The power of attorney (or a copy duly certified by a solicitor) must be enclosed for inspection. A company should sign under the hand of a duly authorised official, whose representative capacity must be stated.

5. PAYMENT
Pin a cheque or banker's draft at Box 5 for the exact amount shown in Box 3. Your cheque or banker's draft must be made payable to "The Royal Bank of Scotland plc a/c Dumyat Offer" and crossed "a/c Payee Only". Your payment must relate solely to this application. No receipt will be issued. Your cheque or banker's draft must be drawn in sterling on an account at a bank branch in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man and must bear a United Kingdom bank sort code number in the top right hand corner. If you do not have a cheque account, you can obtain a cheque from your building society or bank branch. An application may be accompanied by a cheque drawn by someone other than the applicant(s), but any monies returned will be sent by cheque crossed "a/c Payee Only" in favour of the first-named applicant. Please ensure that you have sufficient funds in your bank account as cheques may be presented immediately.

6. JOINT APPLICANTS
You may apply jointly with up to three other persons. Boxes 1, 2, 3 and 4 must be completed by one applicant. All other persons who wish to join in the application must complete and sign one of the boxes at section 6. Another person may sign on behalf of any joint applicant if that other person is duly authorised to do so under a power of attorney. The power of attorney (or a copy duly certified by a solicitor) must be enclosed for inspection. Certificates for the Ordinary Shares, cheques and other correspondence will be sent to the address in Box 1.

APPLICATION FORM

DUMYAT INVESTMENT TRUST PLC

Applications and cheques or banker's drafts must be received by 10.00 a.m. on 20 April 1995. Please send the completed form by post or deliver it by hand to The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, Securities Services — Registrars, 8 Bankhead Crossway North, Edinburgh EH11 4BR or deliver it by hand only to The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, Securities Services — Registrars, 67 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3DL.

BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE

PERSONAL DETAILS

1 Title: Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Other
Full Forenames
Surname
Permanent Address
Postcode

2 I/We offer to acquire [ ] ADS and/or [ ] MDS in DUMYAT INVESTMENT TRUST PLC (or any smaller number of such shares for which this application is accepted) in each case at the price of 100p per share on the terms and subject to the conditions set out in the Listing Particulars dated 5 April 1995 and subject to the Memorandum and Articles of Association of Dumyat Investment Trust PLC.

3 I/We attach a cheque or banker's draft made payable to "The Royal Bank of Scotland plc a/c Dumyat Offer",
crossed "a/c Payee Only" for £ [ ]

4 Signature Date April 1995

5 [ ] Pin your cheque or banker's draft here.

6 For joint applications please complete the following.

SECOND JOINT HOLDER
Title: Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Other
Full Forenames
Surname
Permanent Address
Postcode
Signature

THIRD JOINT HOLDER
Title: Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Other
Full Forenames
Surname
Permanent Address
Postcode
Signature

FOURTH JOINT HOLDER
Title: Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Other
Full Forenames
Surname
Permanent Address
Postcode
Signature

(If you have a financial adviser, you should consult him before investing)

STOCK MARKET  MICHAEL CLARK

Big buyer of British Gas shares could be Hanson

REGULATORY worries appear to be a thing of the past at **British Gas** where the share price continues to make headway amid mounting market speculation that a stake building operation may be under way.

Yesterday the price, which has been trading close to its low for the year, advanced a further 3p to 299½p during another bout of heavy turnover that saw almost 15 million shares change hands. It stretches the rise in the price during the past couple of days to 13p adding more than £500 million to the group's stock market price tag of £13 billion.

Dealers say Smith New Court, the broker, has been mopping up available stock for a big buyer. Word is that Hanson, the acquisitive industrial conglomerate controlled by Lord Hanson, may be building up a holding. But brokers are laughing at suggestions he may be planning a bid. They point to Gas's prospective yield of 6.3 per cent and say he may see it as a worthwhile investment offering a strong return over the next couple of years.

Smith New Court acted for Hanson when it acquired a 3 per cent holding in ICI a few years ago, a move that eventually resulted in the demerger of Zeneca.

The rest of the equity market enjoyed another resilient performance with prices closing at a new high for the year having briefly breached the 3,200 level. However, prices closed below their best as a few profit-takers moved in after an uncertain start to trading on Wall Street and the end of the financial year.

The FT-SE 100 index, up almost 19 points at one stage, eventually saw its lead reduced to 2.1 at 3,190.2. Turnover was a healthy 820 million shares, although much of this was made up of last minute bed and breakfast transactions designed to establish year-end tax losses.

Standard Chartered was a weak market losing 9p at 285p after Tuesday's move by Lloyds Bank to place its entire 4.5 per cent holding. The speculators say the disposal crushed any lingering hopes of an eventual bid for the company.

There was renewed speculative support for **Yorkshire Electricity** with the price climbing 14p to 624p. **Northern Electric**, the subject of an abortive bid recently by Trafalgar House, rose 6p to 765p. A group of dissident shareholders have called for an extraordinary meeting.

British Airways firmed 1p to 404p cheered by the latest passenger traffic figures showing a 6 per cent increase during March. The passenger load factor also grew by 1.6 points to a record 72.3 per cent.



David Jones, chief executive, of ShareLink

Elsewhere on the bid front, **ShareLink**, the telephone operated private client stockbroker, jumped 19p to 232p after agreeing terms with Charles Schwab, the US stockbroker, worth 235p a share and valuing the entire company at almost £40 million.

ShareLink was launched on the stock market in 1987 at 250p a share, controlling a large share of Britain's private clients business. But the slump in stock market volumes during the recession took its toll on both business and profits. ShareLink directors have already given undertakings to accept the offer in respect of their holdings totalling 16.4 per cent.

News of the deal also enabled another takeover favourite, **Smith New Court**, to rebound 18p to 438p. There has been speculation that SNC could find itself on the receiving end of a bid from the likes of Schroders. But some of the speculation has been blunted by worries that profits have been hit by low trading volume.

Royal Insurance advanced 9p to 292p and **Commercial Union** 7p to 541p after both companies denied a report by James Capel, the broker, that they faced the possibility of paying out billions of dollars. Capel said the companies would be liable for claims made over a number of years unless changes are made in US environmental protection laws or the balance of court decisions shifts in favour of the insurers. Capel had suggested that both Royal and CU had a higher risk of exposure to polluted US sites. Meanwhile, Warburg Securities, the broker, has re-iterated its buy recommendations for both Royal and CU.

Nobo Group was a casualty on the day falling 61p to 148p after warning that profits for the current year were likely to fall significantly below market expectations.

□ **GILT EDGED:** Trading conditions were described as thin with the Bank of England taking advantage of the market's recent robustness to issue further tranches of existing stock. This included £150 million of Treasury index-linked 2½ per cent 2003 and £150 million of Treasury index-linked 2013.

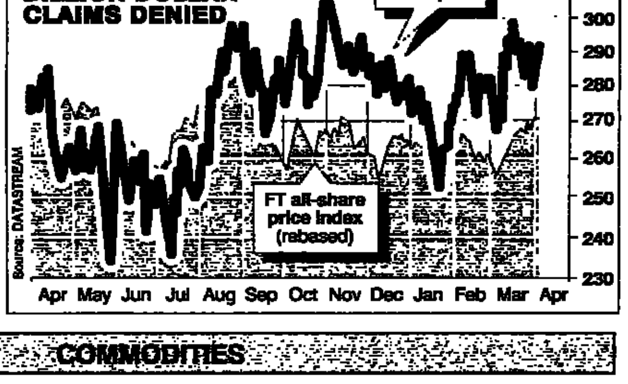
In the futures pit the June series of the long gilt touched £103 29/32 before ending the session £⅛ firmer at £103¾ as 41,000 contracts were completed. In the cash market interest was focused on the shorter dated stocks with Treasury 8 per cent 2000 firming three ticks to £98¾, while at the longer end Treasury 8 per cent 2013 was £5/32 higher at £96 27/32.

□ **NEW YORK:** Shares were mixed at midday with with the bond market surrendering its early gains and profit-taking continuing in the technology sector. The Dow Jones industrial average was down 2.42 points at 4,199.19.

Property shares suffered jitters last night amid claims from some brokers that the recovery in the sector may already be in the price. Dealers reported nervous selling by institutions, prompting falls in better-known names such as Hammerson, down 5p at 324p, Land Securities, 5p to 585p, and MEPC, 3p to 394p.

AAH continued to mark-time at 448p — 28p above the terms bing offered by GEHE, the German pharmaceutical group. Dieter Kaemmerer, chairman of GEHE, yesterday hit back at claims that his company will have to substantially increase its £377 million offer if it wishes to win the day.

He has written to AAH shareholders urging them to accept the offer which he described as generous. He argued that the profit forecast made by AAH on March 17, underlined the group's existing problems and revealed new problems which raised serious concern about its underlying value.



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 4199.19 (-2.42)
S&P Composite 504.77 (-0.47)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average 15882.49 (+251.96)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng Closed

Amsterdam:
EOE Index 397.83 (+1.02)

Sydney:
AO 1982.4 (+46.1)

Frankfurt:
DAX 1969.84 (+4.83)

Singapore:
Straits 2101.16 (+27.11)

Brussels:
General 6969.81 (+18.57)

Paris:
CAC-40 1872.92 (-9.85)

Zurich:
SKA Gen 579.80 (-2.30)

London:
FT 30 2444.0 (+2.2)
FT 100 3190.2 (+2.1)
FT-SE Mid 250 3468.3 (+8.5)
FT-SE-A 350 1581.9 (+1.7)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100 1267.84 (+0.14)
FT A All-Share 1560.78 (+1.88)
FT Non Financials 1685.17 (+1.43)
FT Fixed Interest 111.02 (+0.18)
FT Govt Secs 91.98 (-0.15)
Bargains 41986
SEAQ Volume 820.3m
USM (Datastrm) 149.58 (+0.03)
US$ 1.6035 (+0.0002)
German Mark 2.2180 (-0.0037)
Exchange Index 84.7 (-0.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)
£:ECU 1.1970
£:SDR 1.0297
RPI 146.9 Feb (3.4%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Albright & Wilson (150)	165	+ ½
Beale	171	...
Brit Aerospace Uts	123	...
Colleagues	150	...
Dailywin (128)	130	...
Datrontech (130)	136	...
Expro Intl (175)	174	...
F&C (100)	100	...
Geared Inc Inv (100)	99	- ½
Golden Rose Cms (135)	115	...
HTR Inc/Gth Split (100)	102	...
Inv Capital Wts	18	...
Inv Tst of Inv Tsts	84	...
Melrose Energy Wts	3½	...
Montnro UK Smlr (100)	95	...
-ditto- Wts	44	...
Nat Power (p/p) (476)	169	-1
PTS Group (90)	92	...
PowerGen (p/p) (512)	188	-1
Schroder Inc Gth Uts	520	+3
Scot Oriental Smlr (100)	95½	...
Superframe Group (50)	40	...
Superframe Wts	6	...
Throg Dual Zero Div Pf	103	...
Zotefoams (145)	174	+1

RIGHTS ISSUES

Acorn Computer n/p (80)	5½	...
Arcon Int'l n/p (1r20p)	1	- ¼
Beauford n/p (28)	1	...
Guinness Peat n/p (20)	6	...
Horace Sml App n/p (90)	37	-2
Marley n/p (112)	16	+1
Rhino Group n/p (8)	¼	...
TBI n/p (35)	2	-1

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:
Kleinwort Benson 659p (+15p)
Sharelink 232p (+19p)
Smith New Court 438p (+18p)
David Brown 208p (+12p)
Frost Group 252p (+13p)
Scotia 390p (+15p)
Reg Vardy 188p (+10p)

FALLS:
Nobo Group 148p (-61p)
Marks Spencer 416½p (-9p)

Closing Prices Page 29

TEMPUS

Under the Aegis of Davis

FROM the sheer weight of the historical peroration accompanying 1994 figures from Aegis yesterday, it would seem that Europe's biggest media buyer and services group is trying to make a point. Investors should draw a line at about the arrival in October of Crispin Davis from United Distillers and disregard all that went before, it says.

Aegis is considerably smaller than WPP or Saatchi but has trod a similar *via dolorosa* after hefty over-expansion in the deal-happy 1980s. The group's own restructuring came a year before Mr Davis's entrance and a couple of years after the old WCRS advertising agency, which had formed the core of the group, had been cut loose.

Mr Davis's message is that the French who took control ahead of the imposition in their country of the *Loi Sapin* that severely dented profits are long gone, and the group can be considered a normal British stock again. France, 70 per cent of earnings a couple of years ago, is now bringing in less than 20 per cent. Mr Davis took the opportunity of his arrival for a final financial cleansing of the stables. Going forward, therefore, 1995 promises a clean profits figure of £28-£29 million, against £24 million last year, which would put the shares, currently grounded at 22½p, on a not unreasonable 12 times' earnings.

Aegis is looking at a relatively slow progress from now, with improvements in the earnings line coming from some cost savings and billings growth that should run at approaching 10 per cent this year. Given the excesses of past management, the market may wait until the new regime has demonstrated its worth to chase the shares.

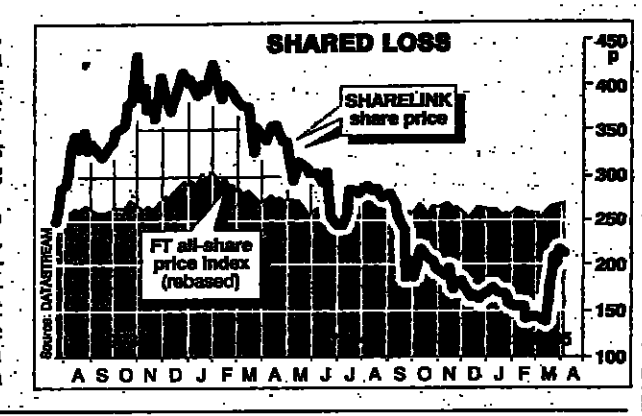
ShareLink

CHARLES SCHWAB, probably the world's largest discount broker, knows a bargain when it sees one and ShareLink at 235p per share must be a steal. Schwab, valued at £1.5 billion, controls more than 40 per cent of US execution-only retail broking, but as yet has no significant UK business.

For a mere £39 million, Schwab will be set up with about 7 per cent of UK transactions plus a valuable 600,000 retail customers. Added to that is ShareLink's heavy investment in dealing systems in the past year.

ShareLink has failed to live up to initial expectations, in part because the privatisation bandwagon has virtually come to a standstill but more importantly due to the recent fall in transaction volumes. Brokers have high fixed costs and because ShareLink offers no expensive trimmings to its dealing service, it needs volume to turn revenue into profit.

But ShareLink had big plans for new and more profitable services and Schwab, boasting more financial muscle, intially offered a a joint venture. But now Schwab is offering 235p for a business valued by Hill Samuel less than two years ago at 250p. ShareLink will struggle to break even this year but Schwab is buying a market position on which it can build. If Schwab believed ShareLink's recent track record was a true reflection of prospects, it would not bid. Shareholders should ask for more.



Laird

SHAREHOLDERS in Laird Group who backed the group's rights issue last November have good reason to feel pleased. The shares now sit 17 per cent higher than the rights price, partly on the optimistic £47 million profit forecast published at the time, which Laird has now beaten by £1.7 million.

Organic growth always takes priority at Laird acquisitions and the company is now reaping the benefit from a heavy investment programme in the last five years which has consumed £160 million. That programme, supplemented by the occasional acquisition, has given the group a far wider customer base, reducing its automotive business to 40 per cent of group profits. That process will continue since the remains of the rights money left Laird with net cash of £20.6 million at the year end.

In the current year, Laird's sealing systems division should prosper from the recovery in the European motor industry while three large new plants in Spain, the Czech Republic and the US will contribute for the first time. The shares, on 13 times historic earnings, still look good value.

David Brown

THE weaker pound should prove a boon for UK exporters of components and capital goods and David Brown, which last year sold more gears and pumps abroad than at home, is ploughing deep furrows in overseas markets where manufacturers are feeling more expansive than their counterparts in the UK.

Brown supplies transmission systems for trains, tanks and fork-lift trucks as well as gears for machinery and pumps for the petrochemical industry. A late-cycle business, Brown needs industrial expansion to boost volumes and margins but despite the rapid growth in GDP, the UK has been slow to respond. The business sectors Brown serves — rail, coal and power generating — are not expanding in the UK for political and other reasons.

Overseas, it is different. David Brown is getting orders from the Far East and the US. Last year margins were depressed due to the cost of relocating a factory, an expense which is already drawing benefits in sales per employee. Over the next two to three years, Brown's underperforming industrial transmissions business should edge its margins up from last year's 3 per cent to double digits as new products hit the market. With signs that mobile equipment makers, such as JCB, are seeing better times, Brown's UK prospects should improve but even without a domestic boom, Brown shares look cheap at 12 times this year's earnings.

EDITED BY NEIL BENNETT

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

May	943-942	Jul	1043-1042
Jul	965-964	Sep	1053-1052
Sep	984-982	Dec	1069-1065
Dec	1005-1004	Mar	unq
Mar	1025-1024		
May	1035-1033		Volume: 2925

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

May	3095-3093	Jan	2955-2950
Jul	3047-3045	Mar	2940-2930
Sep	3007-3005	May	2925-2910
Nov	2980-2972		Volume: 1686

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Dec	320.5-19.5
Spot: 368.4		Mar	317.5-15.5
May	369.0-68.0	May	317.4-14.7
Aug	357.0-56.0	Aug	316.4-12.4
Oct	328.5-27.6		Volume: 2913

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on April 4

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB.	90.20	133.27	123.89
(+/-)	-0.60	+4.30	+1.20
Eng/Wales:	90.47	133.59	122.63
(+/-)	+0.03	+4.84	+1.11
(%)	n/c	+20.0	+8.0
Scotland:	87.80	131.47	128.78
(+/-)	-6.35	-1.60	+1.82
(%)	+6.0	-11.0	+1.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	18.35	+0.30
Brent 15 day (May)	17.80	+0.30
Brent 15 day (Jun)	17.50	+0.25
W Texas Intermediate (May)	19.35	+0.15
W Texas Intermediate (Jun)	19.15	+0.15

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	B: 187 (+3)	O: 189 (+3)
Gasoil EEC	156 (n/c)	157 (n/c)
Non EEC IH May	153 (+1)	154 (+1)
Non EEC IH Jun	152 (+1)	153 (+1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	97 (n/c)	99 (-1)
Naphtha	166 (n/c)	168 (n/c)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Apr	153.75-54.00	Jul	151.50-52.25
May	152.00-52.25	Aug	153.25-53.50
Jun	151.50-51.75		Vol: 18055

BRENT (6.00pm)

May	17.80-17.81	Aug	17.09-17.11
Jun	17.48-17.50	Sep	16.98-16.97
Jul	17.25-17.27		Vol: 51018

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
May	115.15	May	108.90
Jul	115.95	Sep	101.25
Sep	102.30	Nov	101.95
Nov	103.25	Jan	104.00
Jan	105.25	Mar	105.75
Volume: 353		Volume: 0	

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
May	345.0	347.0
Apr	128.0	128.6
May	unq	165.0
		Volume: 56

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)
May 122.75-123.25

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Apr 95	2226	2196	2225
May 95	2191	2140	2190
Jun 95	2075	2048	2083
Jul 95	1975	1940	1968

Vol: 301 lots Open interest: 4334
Index 2196 (same)

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Rudolf Wolff Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2959.0-2960.0	2921.0-2922.0	1414050
Lead ($/tonne)	605.00-606.00	618.50-619.00	129475
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1061.0-1061.5	1083.0-1083.5	520825
Tin ($/tonne)	5855.0-5860.0	5890.0-5895.0	23175
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1883.0-1883.5	1899.0-1899.5	1694325
Nickel ($/tonne)	7625.0-7630.0	7740.0-7750.0	71142

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
Alld Dom	500	43	50	56	0	9	13
(*542)	550	5	17	27	12	31	34
Argyll	280	12	19	25	2	12	15
(*288)	300	2	10	16	13	23	26
ASDA	70	6	9	11	0	2	3
(*76)	80	0	4	5	4	6	8
Boots	500	17	29	38	2	16	19
(*515)	550	0	7	16	35	47	49
Br Airways	390	17	28	35	2	14	19
(*404)	420	2	12	21	17	31	35
BP	420	16	27	35	1	11	15
(*433)	460	0	8	16	26	33	37
Br Steel	160	3	9	13	3	8	10
(*160)	180	0	2	5	20	21	22
C & W	390	13	26	35	4	15	19
(*399)	420	1	12	21	22	32	36
CU	493	49	—	—	0	—	—
(*541)	543	9	—	—	11	—	—
ICI	700	43	62	72	1	10	20
(*741)	750	6	31	43	16	29	42
Kingfishr	460	6	20	29	15	26	31
(*463)	500	0	7	14	50	54	57
Land Sec	550	36	44	48	1	11	14
(*585)	600	3	13	20	17	38	40
M & S	390	29	34	41	0	6	10
(*418)	420	4	14	23	6	18	23
Nat West	500	42	56	63	0	7	14
(*540)	550	6	25	34	15	26	35
Sainsbury	420	18	27	36	1	11	15
(*436)	460	1	8	17	24	35	38
Shell	700	21	42	54	2	12	19
(*718)	750	1	16	26	32	36	43
Smkl Bch	500	14	30	41	5	18	24
(*508)	550	0	10	19	41	49	53
Storehse	240	7	14	19	2	10	12
(*243)	260	1	5	9	16	22	23
Trafalgar	50	5	7	9	0	2	2
(*54)	60	0	3	4	6	7	7
Unilever	1200	48	82	106	3	15	24
(*1244)	1250	13	50	74	17	35	44
Zeneca	850	46	73	87	2	18	26
(*892)	900	12	43	57	18	38	47
Series		May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Grnd Met	390	18	26	33	6	13	15
(*400)	420	4	12	19	22	29	31
Ladbroke	160	15	20	23	1	3	5
(*172)	180	3	9	12	10	14	16
Utd Bisc	330	12	24	30	8	14	20
(*331)	360	3	11	17	29	32	37

Series		Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
BAA	475	15	—	—	2	—	—
(*486)	500	3	16	25	15	26	30
Thames W	460	25	35	39	1	15	19
(*483)	500	1	13	19	18	38	41
Series		May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
BAT Ind	420	31	43	48	4	13	17
(*444)	460	9	21	28	20	33	37
BTR	330	12	21	25	6	11	17
(*333)	360	2	8	12	27	29	35
Br Aero	493	18	—	—	15	—	—
(*483)	531	4	—	—	48	—	—
Br Telcm	390	11	19	24	9	19	21
(*390)	420	2	7	13	30	39	41
Cadbury	409	38	49	—	1	5	—
(*443)	447	10	25	—	12	18	—
Guinness	420	43	54	58	1	5	7
(*459)	460	14	28	33	10	18	21
GEC	300	11	17	20	5	13	16
(*303)	330	1	5	8	27	33	35
Hanson	220	14	22	24	1	4	6
(*236)	240	5	10	13	7	12	15
LASMO	160	10	15	19	3	7	8
(*164)	180	3	6	10	16	18	19
Lucas	180	20	25	29	1	4	8
(*198)	200	6	13	17	9	12	17
Pilkingtn	160	8	10	14	3	7	9
(*163)	180	1	3	5	16	20	21
Prudential	300	23	32	37	2	6	9
(*319)	330	5	15	20	15	19	23
Redland	420	30	36	44	7	13	20
(*446)	460	7	17	25	30	34	41
R-Royce	160	11	17	19	3	6	8
(*167)	180	2	7	10	14	16	19
Tesco	260	12	17	22	6	9	12
(*269)	280	2	8	12	19	20	23
Vodafone	180	21	26	31	1	4	6
(*199)	200	7	14	19	7	12	14
Williams	330	20	24	27	5	10	15
(*346)	360	4	9	13	24	27	31

FT-SE INDEX (*3191)

	3050	3100	3150	3200	3250	3300
Calls						
Apr	155	110	70	37	16	6
May	174	133	97	68	45	27
Jun	188	152	118	90	66	45
Jul	212	176	145	116	93	71
Dec	—	253	—	193	—	147
Puts						
Apr	3	8	18	37	68	111
May	15	24	38	60	87	132
Jun	26	40	57	78	105	135
Jul	42	59	75	95	122	151
Dec	—	101	—	140	—	193

Series		Calls Jun	Sep	Dec	Puts Jun	Sep	Dec
Abby Nat	460	31	41	48	8	15	18
(*477)	500	10	21	28	29	35	37
Amstrad	150	39	—	—	0	—	—
(*180)	175	18	—	—	4	—	—
Barclays	600	55	67	78	7	15	21
(*641)	650	23	37	49	26	36	42
Blue Circ	300	12	20	26	15	20	23
(*303)	330	3	9	14	37	40	42
Br Gas	300	9	15	18	13	16	21
(*300)	330	1	5	8	38	39	41
Dixons	220	20	22	26	4	10	11
(*232)	240	9	11	16	14	21	22
Forte	220	16	20	24	3	7	9
(*237)	240	5	10	14	14	17	19
Hillsdwn	180	9	13	16	7	10	11
(*187)	200	2	5	8	21	23	24
Lonrho	140	21	24	27	2	4	6
(*157)	160	8	12	16	9	12	14
Sears	100	9	11	13	1	3	4
(*108)	110	3	6	8	6	7	9
Thrn Emi	1100	45	60	72	24	44	51
(*1109)	1150	22	36	48	52	73	79
Tomkins	240	13	17	22	8	15	16
(*242)	260	4	8	13	20	27	28
TSB	240	15	21	25	8	15	16
(*241)	260	7	12	16	21	26	27
Wellcome	1000	64	71	—	1	2	—
(*1061)	1050	25	30	—	10	14	—
Series		Apr	Jul	Oct	Apr	Jul	Oct
Glaxo	700	30	55	68	4	19	35
(*725)	750	4	29	41	28	44	60
HSBC	700	28	58	76	8	29	43
(*719)	750	6	34	51	36	54	68
Reuter	460	25	41	52	2	10	17
(*483)	500	3	19	30	19	29	35
Series		May	Jul	Oct	May	Jul	Oct
Royal Ins	280	18	25	30	5	9	14
(*291)	300	8	14	19	14	19	24
Series		Jun	Sep	Dec	Jun	Sep	Dec
Fisons	180	12	20	25	9	13	15
(*184)	200	5	12	17	21	25	27
Series		May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Eastern Gp	550	42	56	66	5	23	29
(*583)	600	14	29	42	26	49	55
Series		Jun	Sep	Dec	Jun	Sep	Dec
Natl Pwr	420	24	29	37	13	18	20
(*432)	460	9	12	19	40	43	44
Scot Pwr	300	30	35	39	5	11	12
(*322)	330	12	18	23	16	20	26

April 5, 1995 Tot: 30246 Call: 17749 Put: 12497 FT-SE Call: 3208 Put: 3267
*Underlying security price.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100	Jun 95	3229.0	3235.0	3203.0	3214.0	11379
Previous open interest: 68727	Sep 95				3238.0	0
FT-SE 250	Jun 95				3485.0	0
Previous open interest: 4392	Sep 95					0
Three Month Sterling	Jun 95	92.79	92.83	92.78	92.82	17011
Previous open interest: 396280	Sep 95	92.39	92.42	92.36	92.40	8830
	Dec 95	92.04	92.08	92.02	92.05	4869
Three Mth Eurodollar	Jun 95				93.55	0
Previous open interest: 1149	Sep 95				93.34	0
Three Mth Euro DM	Jun 95	95.27	95.29	95.26	95.28	15141
Previous open interest: 695475	Sep 95	95.07	95.11	95.07	95.10	19432
Long Gilt	Jun 95	103-22	103-29	103-12	103-24	41545
Previous open interest: 86546	Sep 95				103-14	0
Japanese Govmt Bond	Jun 95	115.08	115.40	114.86	114.92	4272
	Sep 95				114.27	0
German Gov Bd Bund	Jun 95	92.73	92.93	92.64	92.84	109686
Previous open interest: 178111	Sep 95	92.20	92.30	92.19	92.30	454
Three month ECU	Jun 95	93.35	93.41	93.32	93.37	1723
Previous open interest: 18358	Sep 95	93.35	93.36	93.27	93.30	527
Euro Swiss Franc	Jun 95	96.61	96.61	96.55	96.58	3211
Previous open interest: 38945	Sep 95	96.51	96.52	96.47	96.50	1390
Italian Govmt Bond	Jun 95	94.25	94.47	93.55	93.86	36723
Previous open interest: 48824	Sep 95				93.21	0

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6¾ Finance Hse 7
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 7 Low 6 Week fixed: 6½
Treasury Bills (Dis):Buy: 2 mth 6¼; 3 mth 6⁵⁄₁₆. Sell: 2 mth 6¼; 3 mth 6¼.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	6⅛-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	6⅜-6¼	6¹¹⁄₁₆-6⁹⁄₁₆	
Sterling Money Rates:	6¼-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	6⁹⁄₁₆-6⁷⁄₁₆	7⅛-6⅞	7⅝-7½
Interbank:	6¼-6⅛	6⅜-6¼	6⁹⁄₁₆-6⁷⁄₁₆	7⅛-6⅞	7⅝-7½

Overnight: open 6¼, close 5⅞.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps:	6⅛	n/a	6⅝	7	7½
Sterling CDs:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅝-6⅝	7-6⅞	7⅝-7⅝
Dollar CDs:	6.04	n/a	6.15	6.34	6.65
Building Society CDs:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅝-6⅝	7⅛-6⅞	7⅝-7½

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Jan 31, 1995 Agreed rates Feb 26, 1995 to Mar 25, 1995 Scheme III: 7.87%. Reference rate Dec 31, 1994 to Jan 31, 1995 Scheme IV & V: 6.624 %.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	6⅛-5⅞	6⅛-5⅞	6⅛-6	6⅜-6¼	5⅞-4⅞
Deutschemark:	4⅞-4⅝	4⅞-4⅝	4¹⁵⁄₁₆-4¹³⁄₁₆	4⅞-4⅝	5-4
French Franc:	7⅞-7⅝	7⅞-7⅝	7⅞-7⅝	7⅞-7⅝	9-7
Swiss Franc:	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-2⅞
Yen:	1⅛-1⅛	1⅛-1⅛	1⅛-1⅛	1⅛-1⅛	2⅛-1⅛

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $392.30-392.70 Close: $392.00-392.50 High: $393.15-393.65 Low: $391.00-391.50 AM: $392.50 PM: $392.05

Krugerrand: $395.00-397.00 (£246.00-248.00)

Platinum: $459.00 (£284.40) Silver: $5.33 (£3.315) Palladium: $178.25 (£110.45)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for April 5	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.4762-2.4859	2.4827-2.4859	½-¼pr	1¼-1pr
Brussels	45.44-45.66	45.56-45.66	6-1pr	18-11pr
Copenhagen	8.7400-8.7940	8.7790-8.7940	¼-1ds	¼-1¼ds
Dublin	0.9985-1.0020	0.9988-1.0014	1-5ds	4-9ds
Frankfurt	2.2113-2.2205	2.2174-2.2205	½-¼pr	1¼-1pr
Lisbon	233.83-235.21	234.57-235.21	78-89ds	233-256ds
Madrid	202.67-204.98	204.68-204.98	44-56ds	139-156ds
Milan	2747.00-2790.20	2780.30-2790.20	9-13ds	28-34ds
Montreal	2.2363-2.2645	2.2614-2.2645	0.36-0.44ds	0.62-0.75ds
New York	1.6070-1.6184	1.6174-1.6184	0.02pr-par	0.15-0.11pr
Oslo	9.8970-9.9500	9.9340-9.9500	1½-½pr	4-2½pr
Paris	7.7310-7.7850	7.7710-7.7850	½-1½ds	1½-2½ds
Stockholm	11.8400-11.9120	11.8760-11.9010	1½-2½ds	5½-6½ds
Tokyo	138.39-139.66	139.40-139.66	½-½pr	1½-1½pr
Vienna	15.56-15.62	15.59-15.62	2½-1½pr	7-5½pr
Zurich	1.8135-1.8182	1.8153-1.8182	½-½pr	1½-1½pr

Source: Extel
Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3509-1.3518
Austria	9.65-9.66
Belgium (Com)	28.21-28.23
Canada	1.3907-1.3912
Denmark	5.4233-5.4268
France	4.8000-4.8050
Germany	1.3717-1.3722
Hong Kong	7.7312-7.7322
Ireland	1.6170-1.6180
Italy	1712.25-1712.62
Japan	85.85-85.90
Malaysia	2.5018-2.5023
Netherlands	1.5356-1.5361
Norway	6.1485-6.1505
Portugal	145.20-145.40
Singapore	1.4052-1.4062
Spain	125.58-125.68
Sweden	7.3393-7.3463
Switzerland	1.1230-1.1240

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6125-1.6152
Australia dollar	2.1789-2.1810
Bahrain dinar	0.599-0.611
Brazil real*	1.4577-1.4619
China yuan	12.75 Buy
Cyprus pound	0.70-0.71
Finland markka	6.810-6.926
Greece drachma	358.50-365.50
Hong Kong dollar	12.4689-12.4744
India rupee	49.98-50.94
Indonesia rupiah	3540.00-3608.60
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4655-0.4755
Malaysia ringgit	4.0342-4.0370
New Zealand dollar	2.4465-2.4499
Pakistan rupee	49.05 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.960-6.086
Singapore dollar	2.2664-2.2687
S Africa rand (com)	5.7611-5.7708
U A E dirham	5.835-5.959

Barclays Bank GTS * *Lloyds Bank*

FT-SE [illegible]

3I	608	Legal & Gn	2,000
ASDA Gp	18,000	Lloyds Bk	2,900
Abbey Natl	1,800	MEPC	1,400
Alld Dom	795	Marks Spr	6,500
Argyll Gp	1,900	NatWst Bk	6,600
Arjo Wiggn	589	Nat Power	4,000
AB Foods	1,000	Nth Wst W	2,200
BAA	2,600	P & O	1,900
BAT Inds	4,600	Pearson	1,200
BOC	1,300	PowerGen	2,100
BP	8,100	Prudential	2,900
BTR	7,900	RMC	599
BT	8,100	RTZ	3,000
Bk of Scot	5,700	Rank Org	3,100
Barclays	5,300	Reckitt Col	1,400
Bass	4,100	Redland	3,400
Blue Circle	4,600	Reed Intl	852
Boots	1,300	Rentokil	2,900
Bowater	883	Reuters	2,000
Brit Aero	1,500	Rolls Royce	6,100
Brit Airwys	8,900	Ryl Ins	6,300
Brit Gas	1,500	Ryl Bk Scot	2,300
Brit Steel	6,600	Sainsbury	2,400
Burmah Cstl	1,400	Schroders	29
Cable Wire	3,800	Scot & New	519
Cadbury	4,500	Scot Power	966
Caradon	2,600	Sears	10,000
Carlton Cms	845	Svrn Trent	2,100
Cm Union	6,400	Shell Trans	5,200
Courtaulds	743	Siebe	1,200
De La Rue	587	SmKl Bch	2,600
Eastern Elec	2,300	Smith Nph	2,000
Enterpr Oil	1,800	Sthern Elec	609
Forte	3,400	Std Chartd	8,900
GKN	1,300	Sun Allnce	4,400
GRE	1,700	TI Gp	2,100
GUS	2,100	TSB	5,800
Gen Acc	1,300	Tate & Lyle	2,600
Gen Elec	7,300	Tesco	4,200
Glaxo	11,000	Thames W	1,400
Granada	1,900	Thrn EMI	1,300
Grand Met	3,700	Tomkins	4,100
Guinness	4,300	Unilever	1,900
HSBC	2,300	Utd Bisc	2,200
Hanson	11,000	Vodafone	3,700
ICI	1,700	Warburg	690
Inchcape	1,900	Whitbread	1,500
Kingfisher	1,300	Wlms Hld	1,400
Ladbroke	3,100	Wolseley	2,100
Land Secs	1,500	Zeneca	2,200

	Apr 5 midday	Apr 4 close
AMP Inc	37	37
AMR Corp	66	65
AT & T	52	52
Abbott Labs	37	37
Advanced Micro	34	34
Aetna Life	58	58
Ahmanson (HF)	19	19
Air Prod & Chem	51	51
Albertson's	31	32
Alcan Aluminum	27	27
Alco Standard	72	72
Allied Signal	38	39
Alum Co of Am	42	41
Amax Gold Inc	5	5
Amerada Hess	50	50
Amer Brands	39	38
Amer El Power	32	32
Amer Express	35	35
Amer Genl Corp	31	32
Amer Home Pr	75	74
Amer Intl	104	104
Amer Stores	25	25
Ameritech	42	43
Amoco	63	63
Anheuser-Busch	57	57
Apple Computer	34	33
Archer Daniels	18	18
Armco	7	7
Armstrong Wrld	45	45
Asarco	26	26
Ashland Oil	35	35
Atl Richfield	114	115
Auto Data Pro	63	63
Avery Dennison	39	39
Avon Products	60	60
Baker Hughes	20	20
Baltim Gas & El	24	24
Banc One	30	30
BankAmerica	49	49
Bank of NY	33	33
Bankers Tr NY	53	53
Barnett Banks	46	46
Bausch & Lomb	35	35
Baxter Intl	33	33
Bectn Dicknsn	56	55
Bell Atlantic	53	54
Bell Industries	21	21
BellSouth	60	61
Black & Decker	28	28
Block (H&R)	43	44
Boeing	53	53
Boise Cascade	35	35
Bristol Myrs Sq	62	63
Browning Ferris	34	34
Brunswick	20	20
Burlington Nthn	59	59
CBS	64	64
CNA Financial	75	75
CPC Intl	55	55
CSX	79	78
Campbell Soup	47	48
Can Pacific	15	15
Cptl Cities ABC	87	87
Carolina Pwr	27	27
Caterpillar	56	56
Central & SW	24	24
Champion Intl	44	43
Chase Manhat	37	37
Chemical Bk	38	38
Chevron Corp	47	47
Chrysler	40	40
Chubb Corp	79	79
Cigna Corp	74	74
Citicorp	43	43
Clorox	61	61
Coastal Corp	28	29
Coca Cola	57	58
Colgate-Palmolive	68	67
Columbia Gas	29	30
Compaq Comp	32	32
Comp Ass Intl	58	58
Conagra	33	33
Conrail	54	55
Cons Edison	27	27
Cons Nat Gas	38	38
Cooper Inds	38	38
Corning Inc	36	36
Crown Cork	43	43
Dana Corp	24	25
Dayton Hudson	71	71
Deere	80	81
Delta Air Lines	63	63
Deluxe Corp	29	29
Detroit Edison	28	27
Digital Equip	39	38
Dillard Dept St	27	28
Disney (Walt)	54	55
Dominion Res	36	36
Donnelley (RR)	34	34
Dover Corp	65	66
Dow Chemical	72	72
Dow Jones	37	37
Dresser	21	22
Duke Power	39	39
Dun & Bradstreet	53	54
Du Pont	62	61
Eastman Kodak	52	53
Eaton Corp	53	54
Emerson Elec	67	67
Engelhard Corp	29	29

	Apr 5 midday	Apr 4 close
Enron Corp	32	33
Entergy	21	21
Ethyl Corp	10	10
Exxon	67	67
FMC Corp	60	60
FPL Group	36	36
Federal Express	67	68
Fed Nat Mtge	83	83
First Chicago	51	50
First Interstate	79	79
First Union Rlty	7	7
Fleet Finl Grp	32	32
Fluor Corp	50	50
Ford Motor	26	26
GTE Corp	34	33
Gannett	53	53
Gap Inc Del	34	34
Gen Dynamics	47	48
Gen Electric	54	54
Gen Mills	61	60
Gen Motors	43	43
Gen Reinsurance	132	133
Gen Signal	35	35
Genuine Parts	39	39
Georgia Pac	82	81
Gillette	82	83
Glaxo ADR	23	23
Goodrich (BF)	45	45
Goodyear Tire	37	37
Grace (WR)	52	53
Grt Atl Pac Tea	23	22
Great Wstn Fin	19	19
Halliburton	37	36
Harcourt General	39	39
Heinz (HJ)	39	39
Hercules	46	46
Hershey Foods	52	52
Hewlett Packard	120	121
Hilton Hotels	76	75
Home Depot	43	43
Homestake Mng	18	18
Honeywell	37	37
Household Intl	44	44
Houston Inds	38	38
Humana	26	27
ITT Corp	104	104
Illinois Tool	47	47
Illinova	23	23
INCO	28	28
Ingersoll Rand	34	34
Inland Steel	25	26
Intel Corp	85	86
IBM	83	83
Intl Flav & Fr	52	52
Intl Paper	75	75
James River Va	26	26
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	59	59
Kellogg	59	58
Kerr-McGee	51	51
Kimberly-Clark	52	52
Kmart	14	14
Knight-Ridder	56	56
Lilly (Eli)	74	75
Limited Inc	22	22
LIN Brdcstng	121	121
Lincoln Nat	40	40
Litton	37	37
Liz Claiborne	18	18
Lockheed Martin	51	52
Louisiana Pac	27	27
MCI Comm	21	20
Marriott Int	33	34
Marsh & McLen	82	83
Masco Corp	25	26
May Dept St	37	37
Maytag Corp	17	16
McDonalds	34	34
McDonnell D	56	56
McGraw Hill	71	72
Mead Corp	54	54
Medtronic	69	70
Mellon Bk	41	41
Melville Corp	37	37
Merck Inc	43	43
Merrill Lynch	43	43
Minnesota Mine	57	58
Mobil Corp	91	91
Monsanto	79	79
Morgan (JP)	62	62
Motorola Inc	54	53
Natl Semi	17	17
Natl Service Ind	27	27
Navistar Int	13	13
NBD Bancorp	32	32
NY Times A	23	23
Newmont Mng	42	42
Niag Mohawk	14	14
Nike B	75	76
NL Industries	12	12
Noram Energy	5	5
Nordstrom	41	41
Norfolk Sthrn	65	67
Nthn State Pwr	43	44
Norwest Corp	25	25
Nynex Corp	40	41
Occidental Pet	23	22
Ohio Edison	20	20
Oracle Systems	31	31
Oryx Energy Co	13	13
Owens Corning	36	36

	Apr 5 midday	Apr 4 close
PPG Industries	38	38
PNC Bank	25	24
Paccar Inc	44	43
Pacificorp	19	19
Pac Enterprises	24	24
Pac Gas & Elect	26	25
Pac Telesis	30	31
Pall Corp	20	20
Panhandle East	23	23
Parker Hannifin	45	44
Peco Energy	25	25
Penney (JC)	45	44
Pennzoil	48	48
Pepsico	40	40
Pfizer	87	87
Phelps Dodge	57	56
Philip Morris	67	67
Phillips Pet	36	36
Pitney Bowes	36	36
Polaroid	34	34
PriceCostco	14	14
Procter & Gmbl	67	67
Providian	35	35
Pub Serv E & G	28	27
Quaker Oats	34	34
Ralston Purina	48	48
Raychem Corp	40	40
Raytheon	70	70
Reebok Intl	35	35
Reynolds Metals	49	49
Roadway Srvcs	46	46
Rockwell Intl	39	40
Rohm & Haas	58	59
Royal Dutch	120	121
Rubbermaid	32	32
Safeco Corp	54	54
St Paul's Cos	50	50
Salomon Inc	34	34
Santa Fe Pac	23	12
Sara Lee Corp	27	27
Scecorp	16	16
Schering Plough	76	77
Schlumberger	59	58
Scott Paper	90	90
Seagram	28	28
Sears Roebuck	53	53
Shell Trans	71	71
Sherwin Wlms	33	34
Skyline Corp	18	18
Snap-On-Tools	36	37
Southern Co	21	21
Sthwestern Bell	42	42
Sprint Corp	31	31
Stanley Works	41	41
Sun Company	28	28
Sun Microsys	35	35
Suntrust	53	53
Supervalu	26	26
Sysco Corp	27	27
TRW Inc	69	69
TCC Inds	2	2
Tandem Comp	15	15
Tandy Corp	48	49
Teledyne	26	26
Temple Inland	45	46
Tenet Healthcare	16	15
Tenneco	46	47
Texaco	66	66
Texas Inst	87	88
Texas Utilities	32	32
Textron	56	57
Time Warner	37	37
Times-Mirror A	19	19
Timken	36	36
Torchmark	41	41
Toys R Us	26	26
Transamerica	58	58
Travelers	38	39
Tribune	56	56
Tyco Labs	52	52
UST Inc	32	32
UAL	106	107
USX Marathon	18	17
Unicom	25	24
Unilever NV	131	132
Union Camp	51	51
Union Carbide	30	30
Union Pacific	55	55
Unisys Corp	9	9
USAir Group	6	6
USF&G Corp	14	14
US Life	37	37
US West	40	40
United Tech	69	69
Unocal Corp	28	29
Upjohn	37	37
VF Corp	53	53
WMX Tech	27	27
Wal-Mart Stores	26	26
Warner-Lambert	79	79
Wells Fargo	157	157
Westinghouse El	15	15
Weyerhaeuser	40	40
Whirlpool	54	54
Whitman	18	19
Winn Dixie	59	59
Woolworth	19	19
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	44	44
Xerox	119	119
Yellow Corp	16	16

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Exception to the rule

THE *British* are not really *that* good at putting their minds (or their tongues) around foreign languages. So it was rather appropriate that Richard Needham, Trade Minister, spoke fluent Italian before switching to English (he could have swung into German, or indeed into various Indian tongues) at yesterday's 1995 National Languages for Exports Awards. There were 268 entries from 176 companies, but that does not absolve the nation for being so foreign tongue tied. "We can all laugh at the room service menu in an Ethiopian hotel which promised 'emergency snakes available at all hours'," but the minister spoke of one survey that showed a horrifying 74 per cent of foreign language calls received by UK companies were abandoned at the switchboard. By contrast, in Europe a staggering 80 per cent of companies now offer language training to staff as a matter of course. But as Willy Brandt once said on a visit to London: "If I'm selling to you, I speak your language; if I'm buying from you . . . *dann müssen Sie Deutsch sprechen.*"

Stepping down

HE RETIRED from Barings last December, and in March was named by the Queen as High Sheriff of Hampshire, but Miles Rivett-Carnac has resigned as one of the six nominated members of the Council of Lloyd's on medical advice, after a heart attack, to reduce his business commitments.



"They even co-operate with the staff"

Moving item

TWO months and three days after *City Diary* announced mining analyst Robert Davies was leaving Smith New Court for Barings comes an announcement from Barings that Davies is joining them from SNC. However, it very nearly wasn't so. Shortly after our item, Barings went bang. SNC gave him his old job back, but since ING saved Barings, Davies will be moving after all.

On their bikes

LORD TEBBIT famously said "on yer bike", and in that vein and to raise funds for Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital, Graham Kemp, UK institutional salesman at Credit Lyonnais Laing, and Stephen Butler, of Aspen Communications, are to cycle from Land's End to John O'Groats, starting Saturday. Kemp, one of those lunchtime City runners, would welcome financial pledges for his cause on *0171-214 5768*.

A sign of age?

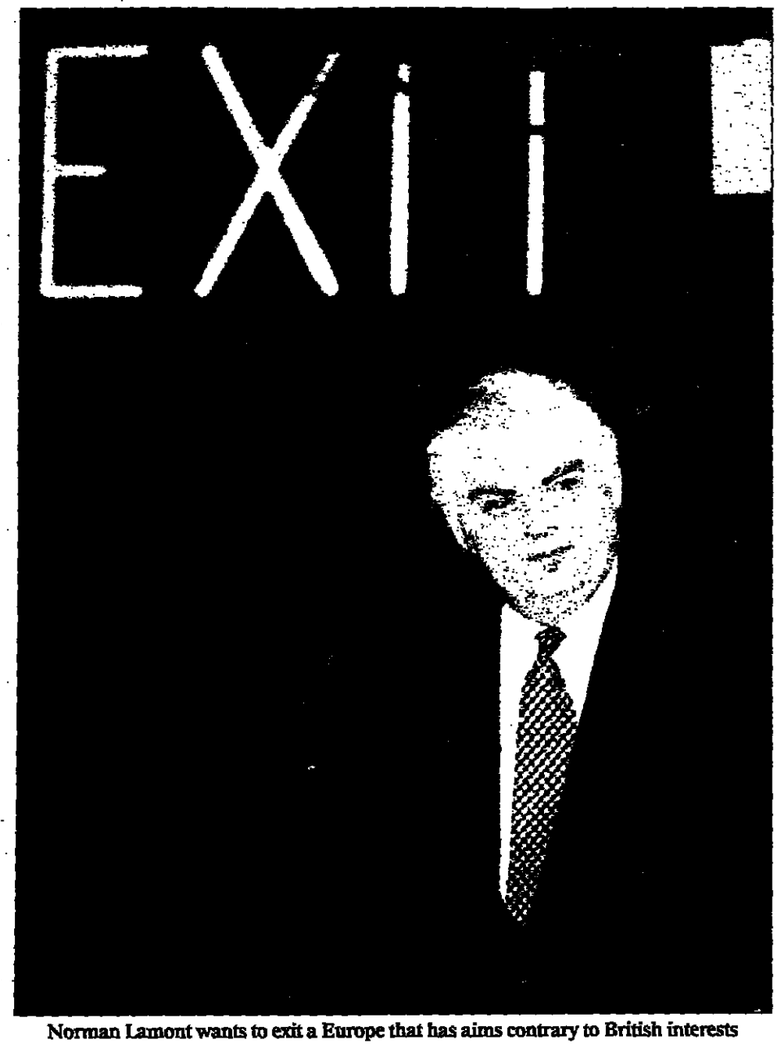
LIKE policemen, general managers of The Savoy are getting younger. Herbert Striessnig, 66, retires as GM at the end of the month. In comes Duncan Palmer — The Mandarin Oriental, Jakarta, and The Oriental, Bangkok. Palmer is 36 and, yes, as all good hoteliers would, he knows how to empty ashtrays, make beds and wash up.

COLIN CAMPBELL

ECONOMIC VIEW  ANATOLE KALETSKY

Britain failing to ask the right questions on Europe

Extreme Eurosceptics are simply playing into Eurofanatics' hands



Norman Lamont wants to exit a Europe that has aims contrary to British interests

Last week, I rashly promised to continue the discussion on Britain's place in the world with an article about the country's fraught relationship with Europe. However, to plan anything even a week ahead is rash when the world is in its present feverish state.

When the dollar is falling by 5 per cent a week, ruining the long-term prospects for dozens of export industries in Europe and Asia, arguments about manipulating the sterling/mark exchange rate in 1999 seem rather academic. When the three most respected central banks in the world — the Bundesbank, the Federal Reserve Board and the Bank of Japan — prove incapable of conducting the most elementary exercise in international public relations without tripping over their own feet, it seems rather futile to rely on the sound judgment of a future European Central Bank, to be run by a similar cast of typical central bankers, but drawn from Belgium, Luxembourg and France. When the Cabinet is tearing itself apart over taxes, political broadcasts, hospital closures and any other issue that happens to hit the headlines, the hope that the Tory cancer might be surgically removed by settling the question of Europe becomes ludicrously far-fetched.

Why, then, bother to think about Europe, now that it is out of the headlines? Because some of the questions that need to be asked about Europe have important implications for the long-term future, and rarely seem to be asked.

I had long suspected that Britain was arguing about the wrong questions on Europe, but I had forgotten how detached from reality we had become until last weekend, when I attended the annual Anglo-German conference at Königswinter, near Bonn.

Completely belying their country's reputation for down-to-earth pragmatism, the Britons have become the Cartesian rationalists, the abstract political model-builders of Europe. The British contingent at Königswinter were willing to discuss for hours the precise definition of federalism. The Germans claim that federalism is a form of political organisation that guarantees subsidiarity and decentralisation. But, pointed out the British, the constitutional textbooks in both languages agreed that federalism was an attribute of statehood. This clearly implied that the "federal Europe" advocated by the Germans must, by definition, be a state. But such a state, being larger than any ordinary state in Europe, must *ipso facto* be a "super-state".

Then there was Norman Lamont's syllogism on "the heart of Europe". John Major has repeatedly argued that Britain should be at the heart of Europe because Europe is becoming an ever more important world power. But everyone agrees that China is destined to grow even faster in importance than Europe. So why, asks Mr Lamont, should Britain not put itself at the heart of China?

Finally, there was the "German model" of economic management: based on social partnership, stability-oriented monetary policy, strict financial regulation and the preponderance of unquoted family-owned companies. This economic model was enthusiastically commended to the Königswinter conference not by the Germans themselves but by numerous disciples of Will Hutton, the *Guardian* economic commentator whose book, *The State We're In*, has taken Britain by storm.

The Germans seemed rather perplexed by all this flattery. They were almost too polite to point out that some of the arrangements lauded by Mr Hutton were now being criticised in Germany for causing economic rigidity. Others show signs of unravelling — for example, many small companies are selling out to larger groups because of the break-up or decadence of the families that created them after the Second World War.

More striking still was the anxiety among German businessmen about monetary and exchange-rate policies pursued by the Bundesbank. Although the Bundesbank may still be Germany's most revered institution, I heard more reservations expressed about its judgment this time than on any previous visit to Germany — even in the depths of the recessions in 1983 and 1992. German politicians and businessmen may repeat for public consumption their slogan that "a strong mark is a good mark", but, in reality, the currency's unnatural strength is doing serious damage to Germany and the pain is starting to show.

One leading politician went so far as to suggest that a "security policy on currency questions" was now at least as important as the work of the UN Security Council. Of course, the Germans realised that there was little hope at present of coordinating economic policy between Europe, America and Japan. But at least their interest in such global issues presented an impressive contrast to the British obsession with European institutions and intra-European problems.

The great irony of the Eurosceptics' campaign to protect Britain from Euro-federalism struck me at this point. While British politicians argue about whether we should belong to one or other European institution, nobody asks what these institutions should actually do.

The clearest example arises over European Monetary Union. The question of whether Britain should participate in EMU (if it ever happened) should clearly depend on what the European Central Bank that will manage the currency union is trying to do. Should the ECB simply aim to achieve stable prices, on average, across Europe? Or should it also be required to maintain a competitive exchange rate with America and Japan? And should it coordinate interest-rate decisions with national governments to ensure that the mix of monetary, fiscal and structural policies across Europe allows adequate employment and non-inflationary growth?

These questions should have been debated at Maastricht, but were deliberately ignored, as Europe rushed into the arms of the Bundesbank. They should now head the agenda for the 1996 Inter-Governmental Conference. Yet nobody from Britain questioned the Maastricht convergence criteria or the statutes of the ECB in 1991 — and nobody will question them next year.

In 1990, British politicians argued endlessly about whether to join the ERM in principle, but there was no discussion about such mundane practicalities as the appropriate exchange rate or the right time to join. In the same way, Britain today is interested only in whether to adopt a single currency as a matter of principle. Nobody is trying to persuade the rest of Europe to adopt a different model of EMU by adding such real variables as unemployment to the convergence criteria.

Adding unemployment to the convergence criteria agreed at Maastricht would either make EMU impossible or would make it far less deflationary than the model inspired by the Bundesbank. Either of these would be more desirable outcomes, not only for Britain, but for all of Europe, than forming a monetary union with the inherent deflationary bias decreed at Maastricht.

However, Britain is so preoccupied by constitutional principles, that such pragmatic issues never arise.

Britain's constitutional dogmatism plagues its entire relationship with Europe. As a result, European institutions are constantly being set up with objectives inimical to British interests.

This would not matter if Britain took the Eurosceptic case to its logical conclusion and withdrew altogether from the European Union, as Mr Lamont and others are now openly urging. But ultimately, such extreme Eurosceptics are simply playing into the Eurofanatics' hands. For better or worse, the reality is that Britain's voters are never likely to support withdrawal from Europe. Britain must therefore argue about what kind of Europe it wants to belong to, not whether to belong. Otherwise it will end up with the worst of both worlds.

The long road from corps to corporation

Susan Gilchrist assesses the prospects of military alumni in the City

It is sometimes said that military intelligence is a contradiction in terms. Now the old joke is finding new life after a study commissioned by the Ministry of Defence, which concludes that admirals, generals and air marshals make bad general managers.

The findings will do little to cheer the hearts of alumni who are out on civvy street in growing numbers looking for jobs. A career in the forces, it seems, has trained them for nothing but the dole queue. Their skills, far from being valued, are often seen as irrelevant to the cut and thrust of today's commercial world. Driving a tank is no substitute for driving profits.

But before they consign their CVs to the dustbin, they should take heart from a growing band of supporters who believe a career in the forces can be a prelude to great things in the City and professional management.

Giles Crewdson of Baines Gwinner, a City headhunter, says he always sees candidates from the forces. "I believe they have a lot to offer," he says. "But they often don't know that, which is a criticism of what is basically an institutionalised system."

> "Driving a tank, it seems, is no substitute for driving profits"

Mr Crewdson should know. He was in the British Army himself (the 7th/12th Lancers) until 1982. He believes former members of the military are attractive to companies because they have developed good communication skills, are adaptable, and make excellent team players.

However, he admits they also have drawbacks. They often lack confidence and they tend to obey the hierarchy. "They come from an environment where if someone has a bit more gold on their lapel they are automatically seen as superior. Life in the commercial world is just not like that."

His thoughts are echoed by one former Army officer who is now an established figure in a City firm. "They often undersell themselves. Just because they don't know about the City or commerce doesn't mean they wouldn't be good in those worlds." The ex-officer believes much military training is relevant to normal working life. "From the age of 21 they have been responsible for a platoon and have learned how to get people to work together. They also have a great ability to work under pressure — on exercises you often go for 48 hours without sleep. That produces hard-working and committed people."

The City seems more willing to embrace ex-majors and ex-colonels than industry. There are former servicemen and women scattered all over the Square Mile, from dealing rooms to corporate finance offices. The City Cavalry Club, a network for former service personnel, has about 200 members.

But the transition is not always easy. as Michael Baines, a former captain of the 4th/7th Dragoon Guards and now head of derivatives and a main board member of Robert Fleming, testifies. He believes the biggest hurdle is adapting to the unstructured environment of the City. "In the military there is a rank structure and a training structure. The City is far more anarchical." But those who cross the divide, he says, do well. Indeed, he believes they are better suited to the rapidly changing financial environment than most. "In the Army you change your job on average every two years, and even senior people have to go back to be trained so they know what their juniors are doing." That is a lesson directors of Barings would have done well to learn, Mr Baines says.

Industry is less welcoming. BT says it has no objections to recruiting from the forces but adds that, like many companies, it increasingly needs people with very specific technical skills. When it comes to general managers, it tends to recruit straight from university.

Mr Crewdson admits that age is a definite barrier. "But that is a function of anyone's career. It is no more or no less of an issue in the services than any other profession."

Anything goes at Lloyd's, says **Tom Benyon**

Names' funds face extra risk

THE 45 action groups at Lloyd's involve more than 20,000 names seeking to recoup their huge losses. Peter Middleton, Lloyd's chief executive, is trying to form a package to solve the disputes.

Lloyd's cannot afford to let billions of pounds leave the market. In the event of a settlement, as a condition to providing some of the settlement proceeds centrally, a substantial part of names' settlement monies will have to stay at Lloyd's, in names' "Premium Trust Funds". These funds are ruled by powers in Premium Trust Deeds (PTD), passed in 1986. Most names are becoming aware that these powers are vast and have recently been increased.

Agents can lend names' money interest free, without security, to whomsoever is deemed to need a fast loan.

Although many agents will not abuse these powers, the risk to solvent names is high. Why should these powers be so wide if they are not to be used?

What is extraordinary is that the trustees are the very agents who can do the borrowing.

If Lloyd's were to go into run-off, all the unsecured loans made to other syndicates, all the loans made to other years of account and the loans from solvent names to the busted, would rank alongside other unsecured creditors: payable at only a fraction of a per cent in the pound.

So, risks inherent in the trusts — especially after recent changes — make Barings look like the World Bank. There are 6,000 to 8,000 can't pay/won't pay names. Managing agents are empowered to take the money of solvent Peter, without his consent, and pay the bills of busted Paul.

When names are bust, members' agents are meant to extract money from Lloyd's Central Fund to pay claims. However, some members' agents are either bust, too overworked, or too incompetent to do so. So, when managing agents need to pay the bills, they can use PTD powers to borrow. Such a practice would be a breach of trust in any other financial market; at Lloyd's, anything goes.

Names thought they were trading for themselves, not joining a mutualised market. However, syndicate years are not segregated.

If equity is to be preserved among names, Lloyd's should



Benyon: rule attack

enforce payment (which it cannot do because of defence groups' activities) by defaulters or, in the event of failure to do so, the Central Fund (which cannot afford to do so, otherwise it will run out of money) should make good the cash deficiency of the syndicates by a loan or non-recoverable payment should a name be unable to pay. If Lloyd's cannot make good the cash deficiencies, then, to maintain strict equity between names, syndicates should pay only that part of a policy for which they hold monies from a name.

The wide powers of the trustees to lend and borrow with and without interest or security, have probably been necessary for the system to function. The Lloyd's American Trust Fund is reported to be more restrictive in not allowing inter-syndicate lending.

However, the American authorities are no doubt delighted if American trust funds can borrow from UK trust funds when there is a deficit!

If Lloyd's were to go into run-offs, the trustees' responsibilities in these circumstances would need to be examined.

The issue of whether fruits of litigation should be kept at Lloyd's is not just a matter of Lloyd's right to ensure payment of demands. The security of names' funds seems in question. Names' monies are being put at risk to prop up an ailing institution without their consent, interest or security. So, when names consider a negotiated settlement, perhaps they would be wise to remember the risks.

☐ *Tom Benyon is director of The Society of Names*

SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND AND LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 181st Annual General Meeting of the Members of the Society will be held at the Head Office, 15 Dalkeith Road, Edinburgh on Tuesday, 2nd May 1995 at 2.30 pm for the following purposes:

- To consider the Accounts and Balance Sheets for the year ended 31 December 1994 and the Reports of the Directors and Auditors.
- To re-elect Mr G J N Gemmell, Mr G R G Graham and Mr A J Low as Directors.
- To fix the remuneration of Directors.
- To re-appoint Price Waterhouse as Auditors.
- To authorise the Directors to fix the remuneration of the Auditors for the current year.
- To transact any other ordinary business proper to an Annual General Meeting.

Forms of Proxy for the use of Members of the Society who are unable to be present at the Meeting, but who may wish to vote, may be obtained on application to the undersigned. To be effective Proxies must reach the Society's Head Office not less than two clear working days before the time for holding the Meeting. A proxy need not be a Member of the Society.

Questions may be submitted in advance from Members who themselves or through their Proxy intend to be present at the Meeting. These should be in writing and lodged with the undersigned not less than four clear working days before the Meeting.

H W RAYMOND
Executive Board Director Corporate Services and Secretary
15 Dalkeith Road, Edinburgh, EH16 5BU
4 April 1995

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
01835 250 783				
Gresham Assn	162.10	171.60	+ 1.20	0.21
Gresham Equity	237.20	252.40	+ 1.60	2.87
Gresham Sterl	200.60	212.50	+ 1.10	0.51
Gresham Capl Bal	108.30	112.30		2.99
Gresham Gilt	73.40	75.75	+ 0.08	5.32
Gresham Japan	152.20	161.10	+ 1.40	
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01200 552 231				
Exempt Acc	538.40	572.80	+ 2.10	2.91
Exempt Inc	468.40	498.40	+ 1.90	2.91
UK Growth Acc	363.00	386.20	+ 1.40	2.97
UK Growth Inc	248.40	264.30	+ 0.90	2.97
Higher Inc Acc	670.50	713.40	+ 2.90	4.13
Higher Inc Inc	397.60	412.40	+ 1.70	4.13
Offshore Inst Acc	187.60	196.10	+ 0.30	5.86
Offshore Inst Inc	89.50	93.90	+ 0.09	5.96
4th America	266.90	284.00	+ 0.10	
Far East	331.60	352.80	+ 3.30	0.37
Europe	269.80	286.90	+ 1.50	1.04
Unit Growth	72.14	76.75	+ 0.24	3.11
Unit Fixed Int Acc	100.90	107.40	+ 0.40	4.53
Unit Fixed Int Inc	72.35	76.97	+ 0.28	4.50
Global Opps	92.80	98.18	+ 0.36	0.48
Balanced Acc	53.89	57.29	+ 0.42	3.17
Balanced Inc	52.17	55.51	+ 0.41	3.17
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
High Income	127.00	134.90	+ 0.10	7.42
High Inc Equity	157.40	168.30	+ 1.10	4.66
Worldwide Bond	272.70	289.30	+ 0.90	4.48
Capital Growth				
American Growth	279.50	296.50	+ 1.40	80
Asia Pacific	293.10	311.90	+ 2.20	
Access & Earnings	255.10	271.40	+ 2.20	3.03
Earnings & Energy	98.73	105.10†	+ 2.10	1.3
Euro Capital Inc	130.80	139.20†	+ 0.40	89
(Accum Units)	148.40	158.10	+ 0.45	89
General	228.20	242.80	+ 1.60	2.24
Japan	111.90	119.70	+ 1.40	
Mastertrust	135.30	144.70	+ 0.80	1.96
UK Growth Dist	110.40	118.10†	+ 0.60	3.76
US Emerging Cos	129.90	138.20	- 0.60	
Income & Growth	368.30	404.60	+ 2.60	3.09
Ethical	65.07	69.22	+ 0.29	3.16
International	108.60	115.50	+ 0.80	.91
Dividend & Growth	54.29	63.97	+ 0.43	4.46
Global Earth & Sec	67.02	71.49	+ 0.14	2.91
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	£16.50	£16.94		
ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0800 831 5981				
Amer Inc & Growth	43.61	45.72†	+ 0.01	0.86
Cash	50.22	50.22†	+ 0.01	5.82
Emerging Mkts	82.73	88.57	+ 0.71	0.65
European	108.10	113.10	+ 0.70	
Exempt	922.00	968.40†	+ 5.60	1.68
Extra Income #	44.00	47.10†	+ 0.02	6.48
For East Emg Eco	104.80	111.10	+ 1.00	0.56
Fixed Interest #	21.68	22.76†	+ 0.06	8.16
Fund Inv Tst	153.00	161.00†	+ 0.60	1.04
Japan	173.80	185.50	+ 2.20	
Latin American	44.13	46.31	+ 0.04	1.05
Pacific	68.34	72.17†	+ 0.64	0.52
Property Shares	99.52	82.47	+ 0.24	2.19
Ub Emerging Cos	59.50	62.46	+ 0.04	1.98
UK Growth	42.81	45.48†	+ 0.16	2.58
Abn World Pool #	70.56	71.70	+ 0.31	2.26
Ethical	59.62	62.59	+ 0.26	2.81
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	49.05	49.05†	+ 0.04	7.66
AEGON UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0131 549 9232				
British Growth	66.50	72.60†	+ 0.46	3.00
British Income	73.85	84.65†	+ 0.54	3.79
Select Portfolio	62.06	67.70†	+ 0.73	
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD				
01452 305 858				
Money Income	72.78	77.32†	+ 0.13	2.67
Income Builder Inc	67.42	71.72	+ 0.27	3.04
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC				
IFA dlg: 01793 640 398 Client dlg: 01793 514 514				
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	224.50	239.90†	+ 0.30	3.25
Capital	393.90	421.00†	+ 0.10	1.96
Balanced	697.20	773.20†	+ 0.90	2.79
Accumulator	512.30	513.23	+ 3.00	3.07
Income Trusts				
American Income	47.91	51.21	+ 0.37	3.48
High Income	383.60	410.00†	+ 0.30	3.77
Equity Income	217.40	232.40	+ 0.70	3.14
High Yield	235.80	252.00	+ 0.30	3.45
Govt Securities	33.13	34.98†	+ 0.04	6.06
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	148.00	156.00†	+ 0.40	0.45
European Growth	33.22	35.44	+ 0.27	0.01
International	151.70	162.10†	+ 1.40	0.20
Japan	184.50	196.70†	+ 1.20	0.01
Pacific	354.60	379.30	+ 3.90	0.01
Secs of America	425.40	453.00†	+ 2.20	0.51
Wrldw Asset Val	45.93	48.88	+ 0.35	0.24
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	516.10	551.70†	+ 2.80	2.31
Conv & Gilt	41.56	44.25	+ 0.10	5.17
Smaller Cos	160.00	171.00	+ 0.30	1.30
2nd Smaller Cos	151.50	162.00†	+ 0.30	1.50
Recovery	133.80	142.80	+ 0.50	1.63
Mer Mkt & Cstly	146.50	156.60†	+ 1.40	0.75
Wrldw Equities	174.30	364.50†	+ 0.60	1.85
Technology	158.20	169.10	+ 0.40	0.01
UK Special Sits	446.40	477.20†	+ 1.80	1.81
B & C UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01239 535 911				
Financial Opt Fnds	97.02	100.80		3.04
Financial Pens Fnds	58.98	62.37		1.44
BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 600 0033				
Capital	70.35	74.85	- 0.02	2.17
International	60.10	63.94	- 0.23	
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
0131 222 4242				
America	256.50	272.20	+ 0.70	
Bond	110.30	116.10	+ 0.30	7.17
Bal Sstr Cos	94.66	100.70	+ 0.40	1.82
Conv & Gen #	62.92	66.94†	+ 0.15	5.87
Europe	212.00	225.70	+ 1.20	0.63
Euro Sstr Cos	94.70	100.90	+ 0.60	0.62
Income Gwth	325.90	347.10†	+ 1.20	4.46
Japan	269.40	286.10	+ 1.00	
Latin American	58.70	61.92	+ 1.71	
Pacific	98.42	104.70	+ 0.52	1.47
UK Sstr Cos	50.56	53.78	+ 0.30	1.43
Japan Fd	628.60	647.80†	+ 1.70	
Mngd Fd	167.80	178.20	+ 0.50	3.15
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
0171 469 8673				
Bal & Assoc	271.60	285.90		1.79
Capital Gwth	106.60	112.20		2.39
Wrldw Opps	171.20	180.30		0.44
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD				
0181 934 9544				
Balanced Trusts				
Bal Inv Fd Inc	338.40	352.90	+ 1.80	3.16
European Bal Inc	88.68	91.87	+ 0.26	7.80
Exempt	72.64	77.48	+ 0.36	4.32
Financial	73.55	78.54	+ 0.58	2.92
Gilt & Fxd Int	420.70	449.90†	+ 1.70	2.76
General	264.30	283.00†	+ 2.20	2.95
Property	244.20	266.40		6.52
Venture	176.80	188.90	+ 1.30	2.56
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.10	100.10†	+ 0.10	5.44
Extra Income	112.90	120.70†	+ 0.68	4.35
Gilt & Fxd Int	98.18	98.06†	+ 0.11	8.85
Income	505.90	541.10	+ 2.80	4.53
Income Builder	60.04	62.67†	+ 0.31	3.62
Intl Income	90.59	93.48	+ 0.30	3.90
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	114.40	122.10	+ 0.90	2.67
Leisure	118.80	126.10	+ 1.30	1.67
Recovery	401.80	429.70	+ 1.40	2.96
Smlr Cos Inc	41.80	44.61	+ 0.01	2.29
Special Sits	274.80	293.90	+ 2.30	1.83
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	125.70	133.40	+ 0.40	0.80
Asset Acc	239.10	247.00	+ 7.60	2.17
Asset Inc	142.80	151.90	+ 4.60	2.17
Euro Gwth Inc	144.30	153.00	+ 1.10	1.26
Income (Accy)	154.30	163.70	+ 1.20	1.26
Income & Gen Inc	139.70	148.10†	+ 1.20	
(Accum Units)	161.60	171.10	+ 1.30	
Japan Spec Sits	74.05	78.45	+ 0.82	
Ukrw Tech Inc	76.81	81.53	+ 0.34	0.08
Worldwide	159.80	169.70	+ 1.20	1.06
BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD				
01481 214 1004				
American Growth	91.74	97.26	- 0.71	
Amer Smlr Cos	125.60	134.70	- 0.80	
Convertibles	51.97	56.38†	+ 0.13	5.76
Eastern	249.60	265.50	+ 1.90	0.30
Equity Income	84.31	90.91	+ 0.14	4.80
European Growth	209.40	222.70	+ 0.80	0.80
Exempt	212.00	225.50	+ 0.10	0.20
Common Growth	70.93	75.25	+ 0.07	0.50
Global Bond	82.45	85.71	+ 0.14	6.50
Global Growth	128.20	136.20	+ 0.60	
Japan Growth	139.40	148.20	+ 0.60	
Japan Smaller	145.30	154.30	+ 1.00	
Korea Trust	74.18	81.95	- 0.08	
Portfolio	125.20	134.10†	+ 0.70	1.80
(Accum Units)	2200.30	2340.80	+ 1.40	1.80
UK Growth	89.94	86.93	+ 0.41	2.20
UK Smaller Cos	78.50	85.64	+ 0.38	1.80
Select Managers	71.49	76.58†	+ 0.36	1.00
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 250 3000				
Int Equity Pool Inc	71.66	76.23		
Special Opps Inc	51.13	54.39		
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD				
01481 226 6020				
Balanced Growth	102.62	108.59†		1.97
(Accum Units)	116.41	123.19		1.97
Smaller Cos	97.98	103.68		1.28
Higher Yield #	42.92	45.42†		4.76
American Gth Inc	71.21	75.35†		
European Growth	107.86	114.04†		
(Accum Units)	125.91	133.20†		
Global Bond Inc #	76.35	77.31		8.29
Managed Pnsn Inc	39.20	41.57†		1.54
(Accum Units)	40.05	42.37		1.54
Int Sstr Opps	102.49	108.44		
Pac&Gn Gwth	114.62	121.50		
Formerly LAS				
UK Essential #	72.95	77.19		3.73
(Accum Units) #	74.70	79.04		3.73
Japan	56.05	59.29		
Gilt & Fixed Int #	94.24	96.16†		7.99
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 488 7216				
Short Dated Gilt	62.68	63.50†	+ 0.09	6.44
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
0161 837 3000				
Envsion	150.80	160.50	+ 0.60	1.86
UK Growth	164.90	175.50	+ 1.30	2.44
UK Income	127.30	135.50†	+ 0.70	4.65
CANADA LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
01707 851 122				
Cap Gen Dist	181.30	192.30	+ 0.50	2.06
Cap Gen Accum	181.30	192.30	+ 0.50	2.06
(Accum Units)	330.90	350.70	+ 0.90	4.44
Gilt & Fxd Int	39.05	41.39		8.57
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD				
0161 236 5695 Dlg 0161 236 6695 Dlg 0161 236 5062				
American & Gen	152.20	162.00†	+ 0.80	
European Inc	75.00	79.42	+ 1.34	0.59
Smaller Cos (4+1)	76.31	81.19†	- 0.25	2.52
Growth	407.00	433.00†	+ 2.80	2.34
Income & Growth	386.50	421.90	+ 4.80	4.08
(Accum Units)	585.70	621.90	+ 6.70	4.08
Japan & Gen	67.05	71.12†	+ 2.35	
Master Portfolio	[illegible]	[illegible]	+[illegible]	2.56
(Accum Units)	[illegible]	[illegible]	+[illegible]	2.56
Special Sits	93.13	99.08	+ 1.10	0.32
High Yield	[illegible]	[illegible]	+[illegible]	4.53
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	80.85	86.21	+ 0.21	2.56
American Portfolio	90.64	96.54	+ 0.24	1.52
European Portfolio	90.94	96.89†	+ 0.64	0.84
Japanese Portfolio	61.56	65.40†	+ 0.80	
Pacific Portfolio	138.67	138.25	+ 1.43	0.96
Uk Inc & Growth	72.83	79.02†	+ 0.15	3.43
Utility & Bond	58.89	63.55	+ 0.14	7.21
CENT BD OF FR OF CHURCH OF ENG				
0171 588 1815				
Inv Fund	636.50	638.60		4.87
Fxd In Sec	145.85	146.60		9.93

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0171 332 5000				
UK General Tst	62.05	66.01	+ 0.82	3.01
CGF-CHARITIES OFFICIAL INV FD				
0171 588 1815				
Inc	625.05	625.22		4.97
Accum	926.90	926.98		
Fixed Int Inc	119.60	119.16		9.73
Fixed Int Acc	187.15	187.50		
CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD				
0171 637 7967				
Ind Growth	107.50	117.80	+ 1.83	
UK Income	103.22	112.65	+ 1.14	5.306
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
0171 487 5866				
Beckenham Inst	77.17	81.19	+ 0.73	1.48
Beck Bio-Tech	26.29	27.67		
Accum Ethical Tst	143.51	150.98		
City Fin Assets	66.93	70.28†		1.29
City Fin America	85.99	90.30†	- 0.13	
City Fin Intl	73.12	76.97	- 0.50	0.84
Fidcs Inst Inc	187.11	202.06		4.16
Berkley Wrld Gth	116.08	123.04†	+ 0.95	
Feltrell Cap Gth	127.43	135.56		
Fitzmaurice Int	139.96	146.85		
City Fin Pfllo Inc	53.14	56.80		4.41
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	50.80	53.99	+ 0.59	
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0800 373 393				
American Gwth	57.42	61.41	- 0.15	
Atlas Mngd Gwth	34.95	37.38	+ 0.26	0.60
Dragon Growth	61.23	65.49	+ 0.52	0.65
Equity High Inc	79.91	85.01†	+ 0.27	4.24
(Accum Units)	108.26	115.19	+ 0.36	4.24
European Gwth	49.40	52.55	+ 0.42	1.17
Evergreen	25.76	27.55	+ 0.07	
General Equity	61.50	65.80	+ 0.33	2.93
Japan Growth	47.78	51.10	+ 0.48	
Pedigree Gwth	49.75	53.20	+ 0.19	2.94
Pref Sm Cos Inc	64.07	68.22	+ 0.29	3.09
Ethical	65.07	69.22	+ 0.29	3.16
International	108.60	115.50	+ 0.80	.91
Dividend & Growth	56.29	63.97	+ 0.43	4.46
Global Earth & Sec	67.02	71.49	+ 0.14	2.91
COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MGMT INTL LTD				
0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	151.47	161.14†	+ 0.57	5.43
Fixed & Convertible	38.11	40.54†	+ 0.11	7.42
Monthly Inc Plus	94.22	99.18†	+ 0.10	0.56
Performance Shares	43.50	46.26†	- 0.08	8.16
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	113.92	123.32†	+ 0.41	6.59
Managed Fund	85.05	89.31†	+ 0.03	3.27
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	35.90	38.19†	- 0.05	2.10
(Accum Units)	41.78	44.45†	- 0.06	2.10
UK & General	78.75	81.65†	+ 0.29	3.20
(Accum Units)	97.33	103.54†	+ 0.35	3.20
Ub Growth	139.79	148.71†	+ 0.82	2.83
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	161.13	163.69†	+ 0.48	0.23
Far Eastern Gth	121.23	128.97†	+ 1.38	
Global Bond	76.16	80.94†	+ 0.18	6.17
Japan Growth	110.69	117.76†	+ 1.13	
North Amer Gth	165.86	176.45†	+ 0.88	
Overseas Growth	172.23	183.23†	+ 1.00	4.52
Worldwide Growth	82.46	86.45†	+ 0.39	8.89
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	91.50	91.50†	+ 0.02	6.04
Homesales Fund	75.83	80.67	+ 0.27	1.87
Shelter Fund	124.29	132.22	+ 0.42	3.45
For Contraception see Sun Life of Canada.				
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
0171 407 5988				
Consistent UT	29.38	31.51†		3.52
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
0800 526 256				
Growth	135.10	143.80	+ 0.30	1.79
Income	68.50	70.75	+ 0.23	5.05
European	64.25	68.37	+ 0.76	1.14
Recovery	150.20	159.80†	+ 1.50	2.14
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 282 9494				
Equity Dist	801.70	815.00		3.72
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD				
01277 680 370				
Fellowship Tst	71.44	76.09	+ 0.35	1.30
Income #	234.00	248.90	+ 0.80	4.67
(Accum Units) #	576.30	613.00	+ 2.00	4.67
Smaller Cos	153.10	162.80	+ 0.90	0.60
(Accum Units)	187.70	199.60	+ 0.80	0.60
Inv Portfolio	76.52	81.40	+ 0.41	1.47
High Inc Port #	67.21	71.49	+ 0.32	4.99
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD				
0171 410 0177				
Euro Small Cos	£14.84	£15.70		
Japan Small Cos	£11.59	£11.82		
UK Small Cos	£18.69	£17.42		
US Small Cos	£15.64	£16.14		
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS				
0171 377 8619				
Disc Inc	193.30	203.50		3.19
DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0131 315 2500				
European Gwth	265.10	280.40	+ 1.20	0.89
New Asia	189.70	205.70	+ 1.50	0.16
Japan Growth	109.60	115.90	+ 0.60	
Jun Smlr Co	429.80	457.00†	+ 0.78	
Nth Amer	264.00	279.90	+ 1.70	0.85
Shtfld Asia Pac Mt	110.70	116.70	+ 1.60	0.38
UK Inc & Gth	206.50	219.80†	+ 0.70	3.03
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD				
01342 577 555				
UK Balanced Inc	137.40	146.20	+ 0.90	1.83
UK High Inc Inc	147.20	156.60	+ 1.00	4.60
(Accum Units)	186.50	200.50	+ 1.20	4.60
UK Prf & Fl Inc	56.83	60.32	+ 0.06	5.20
Envnmntl Opps	82.94	88.23†	+ 0.45	1.06
UK Smlr Cos #	48.15	51.22	+ 0.11	
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0345 089 529				
American	120.60	128.00	+ 0.20	1.37
Convertibles #	19.88	21.10†	+ 0.05	8.84
Equity Income #	121.60	129.20†	+ 0.10	4.10
Exempt	43.59	46.26	+ 0.21	1.80
Financial	42.27	44.91	+ 0.13	1.67
Growth & Inc #	228.10	242.40	+ 0.30	3.18
High Dist #	150.80	160.20		4.66
International	364.60	387.40	+ 3.30	0.13
Int Gen Inc	88.35	94.31†	+ 0.66	2.62
Latin American	24.62	26.16	+ 0.54	
Pacific	72.90	77.46	+ 0.79	
Preference Shares	53.94	52.55†	+ 0.04	7.42
Select	297.20	315.80	+ 0.90	
UK Smaller Cos	214.80	228.20	- 0.20	1.21
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD				
0171 242 0242				
Elcon Regt	200.36	213.75	+ 0.50	1.02
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 372 7281				
Endurance Fd	189.80	201.90		1.16
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
01296 431 480				
European	77.17	81.23	+ 0.43	1.93
Ethical Tst	40.63	43.77	+ 0.25	1.48
Far Eastern	269.40	286.10	+ 2.20	2.14
High Income	126.17	134.92	+ 0.30	4.91
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Confl Smlr Cos	57.38	61.26	+ 0.36	0.50
(Accum Units)	60.34	64.42	+ 0.40	0.50
Convertible	119.80	122.40	+ 0.10	5.87
(Accum Units)	242.00	257.10	+ 0.10	5.87
Emerging Markets	61.91	65.17	+ 0.73	
(Accum Units)	61.05	65.22	+ 0.72	
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(Accum Units)	119.20	126.40	+ 0.60	0.14
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Brian Harris suggests a reform to provide a uniform, independent system of inquiry

Complaints merit rethink

CHRIS HARRIS



Brian Harris says that investigations' high cost remains contentious

There is a lot of misunderstanding about complaints. Malicious and unfounded complaints against accountants are rare. The great majority involve nothing more sinister than bad client relations. The modern approach is to seek to resolve as many of such complaints as possible without disciplinary action. After all, as a professional conciliator once said, if you buy a kettle from Woolworths and it does not work, the last thing you want is an offer from the management to discipline the assistant who sold it to you.

Bad work can be a problem. In law, only the most serious forms are amenable to discipline, which can leave the regulator appearing ineffective. And what of the relationship between disciplinary action and the clients' right to redress in the courts? Last year, in a decision seen variously as landmark or aberrant, Price Waterhouse persuaded the Court of Appeal to order suspension of an investigation into their role in the BCCI collapse pending the outcome of litigation that was thought unlikely to be completed this century. More recently, Coopers & Lybrand failed in a similar attempt to stop an investigation relating to the failure of the Maxwell empire. The latter decision is under appeal.

Greater openness in disciplinary hearings has been called for, not only by the press, but by a number of stirrers and shakers in the English Institute. Open hearings involve tricky questions for a body that does not enjoy statutory protection against libel actions. Nevertheless, there must be a case for public hearing of cases which most often rely on evidence provided in confidence by other regulators. If there were no provision for going into closed session, it would not be feasible to bring proceedings. And an "open hearing" that went into closed session for the most interesting evidence would be a hollow privilege from the public's point of view. Much has been done to improve reporting of disciplinary proceedings, but more thought will be needed before the tribunal doors can be thrown open.

Cost and delay remain most contentious. The Barlow Clowes investigation has gone on for six years at a cost believed to run into millions of pounds. Its machinery (a committee of inquiry acting as policeman, judge and jury) has been abandoned for future investigations, but it would be foolish to imagine that inquiries of this magnitude could be conducted more swiftly and cheaply — and as fairly — by some form of British SEC. The notion that the taxpayer, and not the profession, would pick up the bill is ingenuous.

A point against self-regulation is lack of independence for the disciplinary process, an argument that finds support in the Human Rights Convention's "independence" requirements. In fact, English and Scottish chartered accountants have such an instrument to hand, which they share with certified accountants. The Joint Disciplinary Scheme is administered by an executive independent of the three participating bodies that incorporates public interest as well as accountancy members. The JDS operates through a senior lawyer, the Executive Counsel, with expert help from the profession and with power to reward those prepared to admit failings. The JDS deals with few cases of "public concern".

However, it would be feasible, and compatible with self-regulation, to transfer all disciplinary (as distinct from conciliatory) responsibilities from the three bodies to the JDS. Existing staff would work under the Executive Counsel's direction and tribunals would sit wherever need arose. Dispensing with or assimilating existing committees, such a change would offer members a more professional and uniform system of inquiry and assure complainants of decision-making independent of the body representing the member.

☐ *Brian Harris, QC, is a former director of professional conduct at the English Institute and secretary of the JDS*

New public sector standards



ROBERT BRUCE

IT HAS always seemed very odd that there should be such a gulf of rules, regulations and public interest between public companies and the public sector. We know much less about the financial state of our local hospitals, schools and councils than we probably do about the accounts of ICI, Tesco or Glaxo.

Even under the current reforming zeal of the Accounting Standards Board, it is goodwill, the format of cash-flow statements and disclosure of derivatives which is attracting high-profile debate. In contrast, the public sector liaison committee, set up under the ASB to look at specific public sector matters, was described by its chairman as having "no status, no authority and no resources".

That quote turns up in a discussion paper published by CIPFA, the public sector accounting body, this week. Put together by Martin "Evans, head of CIPFA's technical and research division, it is called *Setting Accounting Standards for the Public Services*. It goes back to the roots of the ASB.

When Sir Ron Dearing wrote the report from which the whole Financial Reporting Council and ASB structure sprang, he included a specific recommendation on the public sector. It said that "there should be an underlying unity of approach to accounting standards across the public and private sectors, with accounting standards normally applicable in the public sector so that unnecessary differences in accounting and financial reporting between the two sectors are reduced; and so that standards apply even-handedly to both sectors, except where clearly inappropriate".

It is this that Evans's proposals seek to implement. The discussion paper advocates the setting up of a public services accounting advisory board. This would take the equivalent US body and build upon it. Its objective would be "to advise those in government with responsibility for defining accounting requirements for different parts of the public services on the accounting principles and accounting standards appropriate to all public service bodies". It would have a full-time secretariat, including a technical director and project managers and a programme of research.

That, to many people, sounds like a recipe for disaster. It would turn into a talking shop. It would busy itself with research, produce little and change less. But one of the key points in the discussion paper is that it would be run under the aegis of the FRC and the ASB, and so would be at the heart of the financial reporting machinery. It would have as its chairman the chief accountancy adviser to the Treasury.

Evans argues that "the current idea of Treasury control of accounting standards in the public sector is a myth" and that the reality is that "a whole host of bodies have their fingers in the pie". The new proposals would formalise a system which, although created with good intentions, is ad hoc to a worrying extreme. Even so, the final result would be advisory rather than mandatory "but should in practice be sufficiently authoritative and persuasive to be adopted by Government".

This would be reinforced by legislation requiring all public service bodies "to prepare their accounts in accordance with 'proper accounting practices'" and by a requirement for all statutory audit agencies to report annually to select committees or the Public Accounts Committee of the House of Commons. That, in particular, would focus the minds of those reporting on the public sector.

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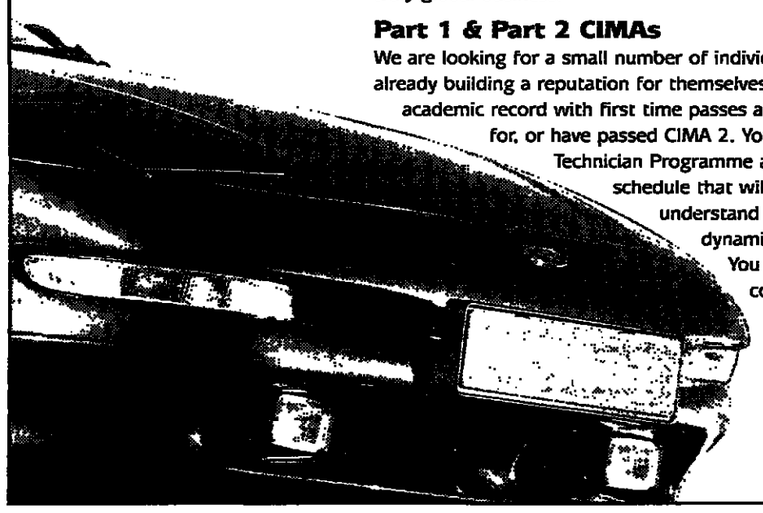
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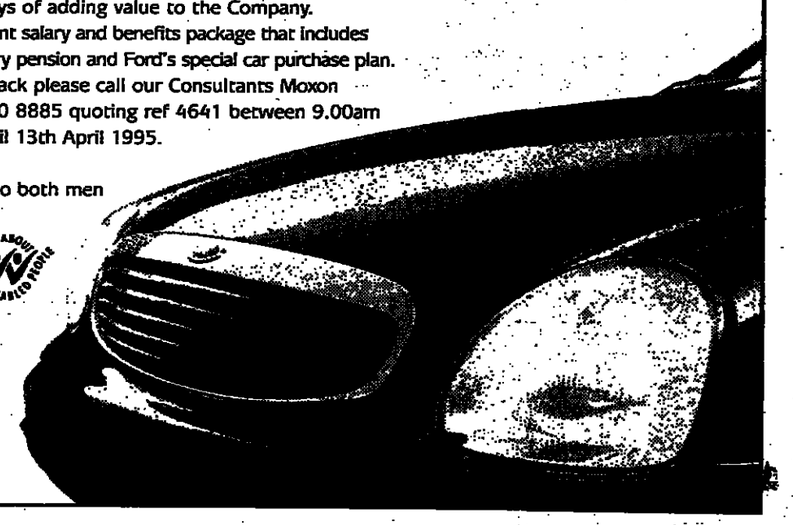
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MUSIC page 32
Full of sound and fury? The South Bank presents noisy nights with Michael Nyman

ARTS

THEATRE page 33
John Nettles stars in the RSC's staging of Ben Jonson's satire, The Devil is an Ass



CINEMA: **Geoff Brown** on a screen week dominated by idiots, dogs, dark thoughts and British talents

A shaggy tale of two stooges

This is the week cinema goes to the dogs. In *Far From Home* a labrador survives a shipwreck and sniffs his way home through the forests of British Columbia. A hundred and one dalmatians lope through Disney's cartoon version of Dodie Smith's book. Meanwhile, the heroes of *Dumb and Dumber* criss-cross America in a van shaped like a sheepdog. All this plus Hugh Grant in a sneer, and Jessica Lange winning her Oscar.

The dog van in **Dumb and Dumber**, a shaggy creation with ears, nose and panting tongue, is driven by Jeff Daniels, who sports his own shaggy hair. A brain does not lurk behind it: asked by a speed cop to pull over, he inspects his own chest and says: "Ya, it's a cardigan, thanks for noticing." Room-mate Jim Carrey, with a pudding-bowl cut and chipped front tooth, occasionally shows more gumption, though intercepting a briefcase packed with ransom money is not his brightest move. Thugs pick up their trail as they drive cross-country to return the briefcase to the kidnap victim's wife. There are good-natured jokes about laxatives, chilli peppers, urine in beer.

Funny? American audiences found it so: they made the movie one of the winter's hits. Carrey pulls faces with his usual energy. Daniels, wisely, never tries to compete and supplies his own line of blank looks.

The Farrelly brothers, Peter and Bob, who directed and wrote with Bennett Yellin, deliver the goods they want to sell. The trouble is, they never know when to stop. The Three Stooges, patron saints of idiot comedy, usually had the sense to stick to two-reelers. Here the mayhem lasts 102 minutes, time enough for the repetitions and lack of IQ to pall. I did laugh occasionally; but please, no sequel.

Anyone panting for Hugh Grant the floppy-haired ditherer will get a shock from **An Awfully Big Adventure**. He sits with horn-rimmed glasses, sometimes a monocle, always a cigarette between nicotine-stained fingers, his expression pitched halfway between a sneer of disdain and the sign of an upset stomach. He is Meredith Potter, repertory theatre director and trampler of innocence: the most odious of the characters gathered into Beryl Bainbridge's novel, set in Liverpool, 1947.

Those wishing another *Four Weddings and a Funeral* from director Mike Newell will be equally surprised. No romping comedy, this, but an abrasive film about a stage-struck 16-year-old girl walking a tightrope between innocence and danger in her job as assistant stage manager. Entranced by Meredith, she fails to notice the jealousies swirling backstage; though she gains more knowledge of sexual matters with Alan Rickman, who rides into the plot on a bike halfway through to play Captain Hook in *Peter Pan*.

In Barrie's play, Peter contemplates death as "an awfully big adventure", and dark thoughts always shadow these theatrical types as they battle insecurity, dingy bedrooms, and the changing repertoire of Priestley and Shaw. Dick Pope's photography enhances the mood with its own colouring: always good camouflage for a low-budget film, though enough details of patterned cardigans, tinned goods and shop-fronts shine through to evoke the period. (Dublin actually supplied locations: Liverpool did not look old enough.)

Rickman appears too much the star to fit the ensemble cast: but Newell's magic works on the rest. Grant is convincingly despicable as Potter, though his performance will win him no extra female fans; and newcomer Georgina Cates is raw and fresh as the vulnerable heroine, lost in a world of make-believe.

For several years, **Blue Sky** has led a sad, hidden existence. Its director, Tony Richardson, died soon after completion in 1991. The producing company, Orion, then succumbed to financial woes, and the cans sat on the shelf. Tentatively released in America last year, the film has flared into prominence with Jessica Lange's Oscar for Best Actress. Her combustible wife of an army officer in the early 1960s is a striking creation. But there is a thinness about *Blue Sky* that makes it best left for home viewing.

Opening credits roll over magazine covers and photo spreads featuring Bardot, Monroe and other Fifties icons. These are where Lange's character gets her hair-styles and dreams. The military frown on her wildness, particularly in Alabama, where stress is heightened by an underground testing programme and the commanding officer's roving hands. Alongside Lange's exuberant life force, Tommy Lee Jones displays notable subtlety as the husband trapped in the army's straitjacket.

For Richardson, *Blue Sky* marks a sober conclusion to a wayward career: no fancy frills, just good acting, and a story simply told. But the film's lack of depth reduces its power, and as the plot grows melodramatic, even Oscar-winning Jessica fails to convince. *Blue Sky* enters your head, entertains, exits, and leaves no trace.

Back to our dogs. The labrador first appears in **Far From Home** looking plaintive in a wood. He soon picks up a young human pal (Jesse Bradford), and the pair's survival skills are tested as they fight their way back from the boy's father's capsized boat. Search planes fail to spot them. Food dwindles to worms and creepy crawlies. But a happy ending is never in doubt, for this docile affair from Philip Borsos, director of *The Grey Fox*, sticks slavishly to the oldest traditions: good news for those who enjoy pretty scenery and the mindset of Baden-Powell, bad news for parents who like to stay awake in the cinema.

One Hundred and One Dalmatians is a better Easter bet, though this 1961 cartoon might rattle youngsters used to the brash attractions of *Aladdin*. Nothing is thrust in your face: Dodie Smith's endearing British story about the rescue of dalmatians threatened with an after-life as a fur coat ambles along quietly. No show-off voice artists jerk your elbow; the only famous cast name is Rod Taylor, who speaks for Pongo, the canine whose puppies attract the eyes of the hissable Cruella De Vil.

The animation is equally subdued. Instead of today's noisy display, you get dainty set pieces such as the "twilight bark", where dogs relay an alarm call from Regent's Park to the sleeping countryside beyond. Disney's scriptwriters have tweaked the material slightly to suit American tastes. But enough gentle doggy charm survives to make for pleasurable viewing.

Terminal Velocity, a ludicrous sky-diving thriller, and the tedious sports comedy *Little Big League* complete Hollywood's offerings this week. Better by far to focus on two new British talents on show at the ICA. Steve McLean, groomed in pop promos and TV, piles on the glossy gay style for **Postcards from America**, an eye-grabbing fantasia inspired by the life and writings of the combative artist David Wojnarowicz. McLean skates over Wojnarowicz's anger, but his mobile camera is certainly good at catching beautiful surfaces: desert rocks, Fifties furniture, golden male bodies.

Nothing glamorous hogs the lens in **Tales from a Hard City**. Kim Flitcroft's hilarious documentary portrait of four Sheffield hopefuls pursuing showbiz fame. One is a car thief with a gift for karaoke: another is a cigar-chomping entrepreneur trying to make headlines from a local girl's spell in a Greek jail. Their slick exchanges and dovetailed stories prompt the suspicion that life is being manipulated by Flitcroft's art; but who can resist the characters' silliness and bare-faced cheek?

Dumb and Dumber
Odeon Leicester Square, 12, 102 mins
The height of comic stupidity

An Awfully Big Adventure
Warner West End, 15, 112 mins
Hugh Grant sneers, and Mike Newell turns abrasive

Blue Sky
National Film Theatre, 12, 105 mins
Slender vehicle for Oscar-winner Jessica Lange

Far From Home
MGM Trocadero, U, 80 mins
Docile family film

One Hundred and One Dalmatians
Odeon West End, U, 80 mins
Pleasant Disney revival

Postcards from America
ICA Cinema, 18, 93 mins
Fantasia on gay themes

Tales from a Hard City
ICA Cinematheque, 85 mins
Mordant documentary from Sheffield



Getting smart: Jim Carrey and Jeff Daniels as the intellectually challenged room-mates heading for disaster in *Dumb and Dumber*

Funny way to stay in the business

Jeff Daniels is playing dumb for smart reasons

Jeff Daniels is smiling. He is trying not to, but he has just revealed that he has a percentage of *Dumb and Dumber* which, with $119 million already in the bank, has become the surprise American box-office success of the year. The film (*reviewed left*) is unrelentingly silly. But perhaps the real wonder of the enterprise is not that its star, the facially athletic Jim Carrey, has carried off another hit, but that his co-star is Daniels, who has a reputation for excelling in intelligent dramas and understated comedy.

Indeed, Daniels's early credits include *Ragtime*, *Terms of Endearment*, *The Purple Rose of Cairo* and *Something Wild*. He is also the author of four plays, written for The Purple Rose Theater which he founded in his native Michigan. But when his Hollywood profile began to fade half a decade back he was forced to take films for money. "If I want to keep working in this business and if I want to continue living in Michigan then I have to be in movies that people see."

So, placing his pride on one side, Daniels took a supporting role in a big, brainless Hollywood movie starring a young Turk called Keanu Reeves. He had little to do, but the film — *Speed* — turned into the highest-grossing event of his career. It was unfortunate, then, that his character was blown to kingdom come on page 60, preventing profitable collaboration on a sequel.

Now comes *Dumb and Dumber*. The actor was not an obvious choice for the role of a moronic dog groomer, but once he revealed a capacity for gross absurdity both he and Carrey were able to push the parameters of farce even further. "Jim breaks the rules," notes Daniels. "They teach you in Hollywood that less is more, like Gary Cooper: do nothing. But Jim starts over the top and goes further."

While *Dumb and Dumber* is plainly aimed at the more infantile sensibility of its audience, there is a streak of cruelty that seems at odds with its good-natured burlesque. "Sure, we cross the line occasionally," Daniels admits. "But as soon as you start to worry about being politically correct you blunt the knife of comedy."

JAMES CAMERON-WILSON

BY POPULAR DEMAND-
LEON RETURNS TO THE WEST END!



ROCK: **Louise Gray** at the first night of a sell-out tour

Slickly high-octane

Janet Jackson
Sheffield Arena



PATRICK DEMARCHELIER

Janet Jackson's theatrics drew gasps, cheers and tears

Selling out what looked like a giant grain silo might not seem an auspicious way to kick off six equally sold-out British dates, but then Janet Jackson is not like other performers. With her heaving mass of sculpted hair and aerobicised stomach, she can make any silo her own.

The youngest of the nine Jackson siblings, she can rival her brother Michael in album sales. *Control* and *Rhythm Nation 1814* notched up eight million sales each; her latest, *janet*, has passed ten million.

Success on such a scale suggests that a middle ground of sensibility is being satisfied. Indeed, Jackson serves up an excitingly high-octane soul-funk that may try to be risqué, but ends up as good-temperedly naughty instead. However, few others have the same sense of theatrics. Her entry on to the stage for the opening song, *If*, was preceded by stabbing blue lights, strobes and pyrotechnics. A Big Brother-like voice announced that the rhythm nation was upon us. Gasps and cheers were offered up from the audience.

When Jackson was finally glimpsed, surrounded by eight gyrating dancers, one felt that with stage direction such as this, she could fill silos for the rest of eternity. She followed with two hits from *Control* — *What Have You Done For Me Lately?* and *Nasty* — and then a breathless thank-you. The ensuing ovation lasted five minutes. Giant video screens beamed her regal smiles across the silo. "I love you so much, Sheffield . . .", she started, and the applause made the steel rafters vibrate.

For all the breathless magic of the performance, there were few surprises in such a tightly controlled and conceived show. Costume changes for Jackson and her dancers (led by the alluringly feisty choreographer, Tina Landon) sped past in a blur; fireworks punctuated the zappier songs.

Only two moments had the mark of the apparently impromptu. One hapless man, hauled on to stage for *Any Time, Any Place*, clutched at his heart in a stricken way as Jackson planted herself in his lap and started writhing. One anticipated the blue lights of ambulances, but the incident passed without fatality, although Jackson did burst into tears during the subsequent song, a ballad titled *Again*. Luckily the musicians, led by Rex Salas, anticipated every sob and the singer made a miraculous recovery to dish out blistering versions of *Black Cat* and *Rhythm Nation* itself.

This last song, which sees all Jackson's central characters transformed into skipping soldiers, complete with uniforms, places its seductive emphasis on masses moving together as a coherent whole. A mite kitsch, perhaps, but this is slickly realised performance at a high level: ticket-holders are in for a treat.

"THE MADNESS OF KING GEORGE is already the outstanding British film of the year and will almost certainly remain so. RUSH TO SEE IT." Barry Norman - FILM 95



LONDON

TWELFTH NIGHT: Opening night for Ian Judge's delightful production, from last year's Stratford. With Desmond Barrit as Malvolio and Emma Fielding as Viola, both irresistible
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891) Tonight, 7pm. Then Fri-Apr 15, 7.15pm; mats Apr 13 and 15, 2pm. *A Midsummer Night's Dream* joins it in rep from mid-April ◪

LOCKE'S PSYCHE: Philip Pickett has reconstructed Locke's early masterpiece, the first English attempt at *dramatic opera, and gives it a semi-*staged performance tonight with the New London Consort. Catherine Bott, Christopher Robson, Andrew King, Michael George and Simon Grant are *the soloists*
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 8800) Tonight, 7.45pm ◪

SIMPATICO: First night of previews for Ciaran Hinds, Sean McGinley and Elizabeth McGovern in Sam Shepard's first play for a decade. A shared secret from long ago connects two men now living very different lives. James Macdonald directs.
Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (0171-730 1745) From tonight, 7.30pm, opens Apr 11, 7pm. *Until May 13*

A PASSIONATE WOMAN: Stephanie *Cole, Neil Morrissey, James Gaddas and* Alfred Lynch give a late-night charity performance of Kate Mellor's hit comedy, with all proceeds to Crusaid

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

Comedy, Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731) *Tonight, doors open at 11pm* Free admission but donations encouraged.

ELSEWHERE

GLASGOW: The **BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra** takes up South American rhythms tonight for the sixth concert in its Cutting Edge series. *Odaline de la Martinez conducts a UK* premiere for Gabriela Ortiz, a world premiere for Silvina Milstein plus works from Amadeo Roldan, Heitor Villa-Lobos and Carlos Chavez. Heather Corbett is the percussionist
City Hall, Candleriggs (0141-227 5511) Tonight, 7.30pm

MANCHESTER: Better known for *London Assurance* and *The Shaughraun*, Dion Boucicault also wrote **The Colleen Bawn**, a melodramatic extravaganza set on the banks of the Killarney. This rare revival is directed by Garry Hynes
Royal Exchange, *St Ann's Square* (0161-833 9833) Opens tonight, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Thurs, 7.30pm; Fri, 8pm, Sat, 4pm and 8pm. Until May 6

HARROGATE: A new adaptation of the York Mystery Plays opens *today as* **The Passion Plays**, a retelling that will echo the simple and direct style of the original medieval presentation. Nobby Dimon charts the story from John the *Baptist to The Last Supper and the Crucifixion*
Harrogate, Oxford Street (01423-502116) Opens tonight, 7.45pm. Then Tue-Sat, 7.45pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm

SOUTHAMPTON: Robert Lang, Lynn Farleigh and Mark Tandy go navigating in **A Voyage Round My Father**, John Mortimer's affectionate dramatic tribute. *Laurence Boswell, until recently the* artistic director of London's Gate Theatre, directs
Nuffield, University Road (01703 671771). Previews begin tonight, 7.30pm, opens April 11. *Then Mon-Thurs*, 7.30pm; Fri and Sat, 8pm, mat Apr 29, 2.30pm. Until Apr 29 ◪

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: Impressionism in Britain (0171-638-4141) ... **British Museum:** Byzantine Treasures from British Collections (0171-636 1555) ... **Hayward:** Yves Klein (0171-928 3144) ... **National Gallery:** *Spanish Still Life* from Velázquez to Goya (0171-839 3321) ... **National Portrait Gallery:** Richard Avedon (0171-306 0055) ... **Royal Academy:** Nicolas Poussin, final week (0171-439 7438) ... **Tate:** Willem de Kooning (0171-887 8000) ... **V & A:** Ironwork and Glass Galleries *(0171-938 8500)*

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London
■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

☐ **AIN'T MISBEHAVIN':** Exhilaratin' *song 'n' dance show created from the* hits of Fats Waller. Non-stop energy on feet
Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

☐ **BROKEN GLASS:** Arthur Miller's mastery drama, distilling his lifelong concern with personal responsibility. David Thacker's production, with Henry *Goodman and Margot Leicester*
Duke of York's, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-836 5122) Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm ◪

☐ **CHERYOMUSHKI:** The return of this funny musical comedy by Shostakovich, set on "Cherry Tree Estate", a coveted escape-hole for upwardly mobile Muscovites. An evening of merriment from Pimlico Opera.
Lyric, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 (0181-741 2311) Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm *mat Sat, 2.30pm. Final week* ◪

☐ **DESIGN FOR LIVING:** Rachel *Weisz, Rupert Graves and Marcus* D'Amico in Coward's *menage à trois* comedy. Sean Mathias's award-winner, with even more sexual rough and tumble than at the Donmar
Gielgud, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 4pm. ◪

◪ **IF WE ARE WOMEN:** Richard Olivier directs Joan Plowright and Diana Quick in a play by Canadian Joanna McClelland Glass: three generations of women come together after a death and deal with their past
Greenwich, Crooms Hill, SE10 (0181-858 7755) Opens tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm. Until Apr 29

☐ **IN PRAISE OF LOVE:** Peter Bowles and Lisa Harrow in Rattigan drama about bravely facing death. Interesting and finally touching as it shows the effects of emotional restraint.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm and *Sat, 5pm.*

◪ **INDIAN INK:** Felicity Kendal, Art *Malik and Margaret Tyzack in Tom* Stoppard's latest, wittily, poignantly, exploring aspects of Anglo-Indian resentments and respect. Peter Wood directs
Aldwych, Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6003) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm

☐ **ONE FINE DAY:** Joe McGann as an estranged husband longing to be a *proper dad to his kids. Dennis* Lomborg's one-man-play, here for six weeks
Albery, *St Martin's Lane, WC2* (0171-369 1730) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

☐ **UNCLE VANYA:** Field Day's new version, with Stephen Rea in the title role. Hopefully, the production (by Peter Gill) has firmed up since its Derry premiere.
Tricycle, Kilburn High Road, NW6 (0171-328 1000) Now previewing, 8pm *opens April 10, 7pm. Until Apr 29.* ◪

☐ **A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE:** *David Thacker's production, acclaimed* in Bristol and Birmingham. Bernard Hill superb as the NY longshoreman consumed by unspeakable love for his niece
Strand, Aldwych, WC2 (0171-930 8800) Now previewing, 7.45pm; opens tomorrow, 7pm

◪ **WHAT THE BUTLER SAW:** Joe *Orton's farcical Freudian nightmare* engagingly revived with John Alderton, Nicola Pagett and a rather too Muldrewish Richard Wilson.
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight-Apr 12, 7.30pm; mats Apr 8 and 12, 2.15pm ◪

◪ **THE WINTER GUEST:** Phyllida Law and Sian Thomas head Alan Rickman's sensitively directed cast in Sharman Macdonald's fine play about loss, survival, the perils and joys of life
Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (0171-359 *4404) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm* ◪

■ **WOLF:** Michael Bosworth's tense, *dense drama on the redemptive powers* of storytelling, set in a Balkan-style holocaust. Revised since its Edinburgh premiere last year. Directed by Matthew Zajac for Plain Clothes.
Young Vic Studio, The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363) Opens tonight, 8pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm. Until Apr 22 ◪

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Arcadia**: Haymarket (0171-930 8800) ☐ **Buddy**: Victoria Palace (0171-834 1317) .. ☐ **Copacabana**: *Prince of Wales* (0171-839 5972) .. ☐ **Crazy for You**: Prince Edward (0171-734 8951) ◪ **Grease**: Dominion (0171-416 6060) .. ☐ **Mama I Want to Sing**: Cambridge (0171-494 5060) .. ◪ **Miss Saigon**: Theatre Royal (0171-494 5400) . ☐ **My Night With Reg**: Criterion *(0171-839 4488)* . ■ **Oliver!**: Palladium (0171-494 5020) .. ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (0171-494 5400) . ☐ **She Loves Me**: Savoy (0171-836 8888) ◪ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (0171-828 8665) ◪ **Sunset Boulevard**: Adelphi (0171-344 0055) .. ■ **Three Tall Women**: *Wyndhams (0171-369 1736)* .. ☐ **The Women in Black**: Fortune (0171-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

CROOKLYN (12): *Spike Lee's rowdy,* rose-tinted memories of a Brooklyn childhood.
Electric ◪ (0171-792 2020) **MGM Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031)

FIORILE (12): Generations of a Tuscan family are dogged by greed. Beguiling epic from the Taviani brothers.
Everyman ◪ (0171-435 1525) **MGM Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Minema** *(0171-235 4225)*

HOOP DREAMS (15): Marvellous documentary by Steve James, Fred Marx and Peter Gilbert about two inner city kids and their dreams of playing professional basketball.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **MGM Shaftesbury Avenue** (0171-836 6279)

◆ **JUST CAUSE** (18): *Harvard law* professor Sean Connery wrestles with a murder case in Florida. Ludicrous investigative thriller, with Laurence Fishburne. Director, Arne Glimcher
MGM Fulham Road (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ *(0171-437 4343)*

CURRENT

BANDIT QUEEN: Dynamic, controversial drama about India's legendary outlaw; a ground-breaking production by Shekhar Kapur
Metro (0171-437 0757) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772)

◆ **DISCLOSURE** (18): Michael Douglas says no to Demi Moore. Superficially enjoyable version of Michael Crichton's sexual harassment novel. Director, Barry Levinson
MGMs: Fulham Road (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Marble Arch** (01426 914501) **Screen/Baker Street** *(0171-935 2772)* **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **DROP ZONE** (15): Wesley Snipes goes undercover to catch sky-diving criminals. Good aerial stunts, otherwise, an empty action thriller.
MGM Trocadero ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Plaza** (0800 888997) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **IMMORTAL BELOVED** (15): Gary Oldman is Beethoven, but the film still ends up worthy and dull. With Jeroen Krabbe and Isabella Rossellini, writer-director, Bernard Rose
Empire ◪ (0800 888911) **MGM Fulham Road** ◪ (0171-370 2636) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

I.Q. (U): Albert Einstein steers his niece towards romance with an ordinary Joe. Overly cute comedy with Meg Ryan, Tim Robbins and Walter Matthau
Empire (0800 888911) **MGM Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031)

◆ **LEON** (18): Precocious child shelters under a hitman's wing. Sleek, empty *thriller shot in New York by French* director Luc Besson. With Jean Reno, Natalie Portman and Gary Oldman
MGM Piccadilly (0171-437 3561) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Mezzanine** ◪ *(01426 915683)* **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098)

◆ **LITTLE WOMEN** (U): Fresh, tender, feminist version of the 19th-century classic, with Winona Ryder, Susan Sarandon, and Gabriel Byrne.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **MGM Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426-915 683) **Swiss Cottage** *(01426 914098)* **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

THE MADNESS OF KING GEORGE (PG): Nigel Hawthorne reigns supreme as Alan Bennett's tormented monarch. A fine film transfer by stage director Nicholas Hytner, with Helen Mirren and Ian Holm
Chelsea (0171-351 3742) **Gate** ◪ (0171-727 4043) **Lumiere** (0171-836 0691) **MGMs: Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** *(0171-636 6148)* **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **Screen/Hill** ◪ (0171-435 3366) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

MRS. PARKER AND THE VICIOUS CIRCLE (15): Alan Rudolph's *melancholy and witty portrait of Dorothy* Parker and her era. Compelling performances from Jennifer Jason Leigh and a well-chosen cast
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **Curzons: Mayfair** (0171-369 1720) **Phoenix** (0171-369 1721), **Phoenix** (0181-883 2233) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402)

NOBODY'S FOOL (15): Endearing *slice of small-town Americana, with Paul* Newman, Melanie Griffith, Bruce Willis and Jessica Tandy. Writer-director, Robert Benton
Odeon West End (01426-915 574)

◆ **PRET-A-PORTER** (15): Surprisingly feeble satire on the fashion world from Robert Altman. With Kim Basinger, Sophia Loren, Marcello Mastroianni, Stephen Rea and many others
MGMs: Fulham Rd *(0171-370 2636)* **Tottenham Ct Rd** (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Mezzanine** (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

SHALLOW GRAVE (18): Wickedly enjoyable comedy-thriller about three Edinburgh chums and a corpse loaded with money. Danny Boyle directs
MGM Haymarket (0171-839 1527) **Odeon Mezzanine** ◪ *(01426 915683)*

◆ **THE SHAWSHANK REDEMPTION:** *How to survive long* decades in prison. Engrossing drama with Tim Robbins and Morgan Freeman
MGMs: Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (0171-836 6279) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Mezzanine** ◪ (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Plaza** (0800 888997) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ *(792 3332)*

Back to the assault mines

MUSIC: The South Bank's Michael Nyman tribute means more grievous bodily harm for his still-merry band, **Michael Wright** reports

For what will composer Michael Nyman be remembered 50 years from now? For the neo-Baroque strut of the score for *The Draughtsman's Contract*? For the lumpy lilt of Ada's music in *The Piano*? Or, perhaps, for some grand opera that no one has yet been able to bring themselves to commission?

No. Love him or hate him, Nyman will be remembered, more than anything, for his *sound*. Michael Nyman is *the Glenn Miller of his time, give or* take an airforce uniform and a nasty *plane-crash. True, we are not dancing* to *The Cook, the Thief, his Wife and her Lover down* at the Roxy, but the blaring soprano saxes of the Michael Nyman Band are as unmistakably Nyman as the smoochy horns in close harmony of the Glenn Miller Orchestra are indelibly Miller. The man's music is inseparable from the means of its production; from those dozen souls entrusted with pumping out its thrusting repetitions at high volume and higher intensity.

> ❛ Michael's music is a bit like those 3-D magic eye pictures. There's so much going on ❜

This all started 12 years ago, when Nyman formed a band to perform the score for a Goldoni farce at the National Theatre. According to lead saxophonist John Harle, "a lot *of Michael's ideas at the* very beginning for the band stemmed from the almost *brazen, folk quality that you* would expect in much medieval music. Thereafter, *the use of saxophones had* its home, to a certain extent, within that blaring 'street' sound."

"Blaring" and "brazen" – main adjectives strongly associated with the band. Hearing them perform live it is hard not to be stirred by the sheer, slicing brilliance of the racket they produce. Nyman's music is hurled off the stage with all the strutting, striding arrogance of a gang of wideboys who have just bought their first designer suits. Or is it the ceaseless, high-*volume attention-seeking of a nestful of* baby birds, desperate for a bellyful of worms?

Whatever the motive, there is no mistaking the commitment of the players. It shows in the intensity of their performance, and in their weary, haggard faces after the show. "This is more tiring than any other music that I've ever played," Harle says. "The players give 150 per cent every time," adds lead violinist Ann Morphee, while cellist Kate Musker says she was in physical pain after her first couple of Nyman gigs. Bass guitarist Martin Elliott says: "They're the most demanding gigs I've ever done, in terms of intensity of playing and the volume that comes out of your fingers. I ended up with blood blisters under my fingertips." Couldn't he just play quietly and turn up the volume of his amplifier? "No. That wouldn't be the same. Playing this music is all about matching the intensity of the rest of the band. My whole body is channelled into the ends of two fingers."

The wind players have their own *problems, according to baritone saxophonist* Andy Findon. "It's unremitting, playing with this band," he says. "Your embouchure has to remain firm *and you physically have to blow very* hard down a saxophone to sustain the *pitch. But this is the most satisfying out* of all the playing I do. It's unique in *that Michael will let* you play to your absolute limit; he won't rein you in." Findon compares playing a Nyman concert to running a half-marathon. "It honestly feels like that," he says. "Every time we come off stage after a gig, we're elated and exhausted. When it stops being like that, I think we'll lose interest in doing it."

But doesn't the chugging repetitiveness of the music become a little, er, *boring? Findon's response is instant* and forceful. "No. The repetitive takes fierce concentration. And if you're to maintain the intensity, you obviously have to pace yourself, and not blow out too soon."

Elliott has a similar response. "People say it's repetitive, but there's a lot going on that isn't repetition. Michael's music is a bit like those 3-D 'magic eye' pictures. There's so much going on, and if you just latch on to one thing — the repetitions, for example — you miss out on something else. You have to let go just that little bit, and *suddenly you hear everything.*"

Listening to the band in pre-earth-*quake Kobe, I began to understand* something of what Elliott meant. The venue was a sterile auditorium in the basement of a shopping centre. And there, onstage, was this band making a sound like a phalanx of giants jumping across a metallic landscape, or a squadron of clouds attacking a skyscraper. Nyman's music does not move me. And yet to hear his band pumping out this curiously archetypal music was an overwhelming experience.

Nyman will be remembered all right — not for his film music, perhaps, but for at least as long as the Michael Nyman Band have bows to scrape, or fingers to blister, or lungs to blow.

● *The South Bank's Nyman festival begins tomorrow (9pm) with an all-night showing of films associated with him, and continues until April 29 (0171-928 8800)*



Michael Nyman, responsible for compositions "more tiring than any other music that I've ever played," according to one of his band

JAZZ: Queen of the confessional ballad casts her spell

The heart of the matter

Helen Merrill
Purcell Room

LIKE her close contemporary, Betty Carter, Helen Merrill had, by her early twenties, sung with Charlie Parker and Miles Davis, and served her time as a big-band vocalist. Such biographical similarities aside, however, the two singers could not be more different.

Where Carter is a restless innovator, constantly looking to chart fresh courses through standard melodies, Merrill delivers her material relatively straight, relying almost entirely on subtle vocal nuances of timbre and tone to convey her songs' emotional message.

Merrill's forte is the wistful ballad, which she is capable of imbuing with almost unlimited amounts of genuinely affecting pathos, courtesy of a vulnerably wispy voice made to impart confidences. So it was no surprise when she began her concert with Jerome Kern's plangent *Yesterdays* and followed it swiftly with the plaintive sophistication of Cole Porter's *What is This Thing Called Love?*

Accompanied only by the subtly restrained power of pianist Sir Roland Hanna (his knighthood is of Liberian origin), she mused gently on the vagaries of life and love raised by these songs, her voice frequently falling to an uncertain, husky whisper, but always grounded in an oddly appealing species of bruised dignity.

The occasional fleeting reminders of late Billie Holiday — chiefly aroused by Merrill's similar ability to incorporate tonal frailties into the overall drama of a song's delivery — were made overt by the evening's highlight: an achingly slow, tender *Lover Man*. Few singers are able to propel a lyric so convincingly through such a tempo; Merrill succeeds through a combination of earnest sincerity and refined intelligence.

She plotted a highly effective and individual course through both tune and lyric, and the hushed, speech-like intimacy of her delivery drew a number of quiet sighs of satisfaction from a smallish but attentive audience.

Merrill's most celebrated collaboration was with the legendary trumpeter Clifford Brown, which took place in 1954, two years before his death at 26 in a car crash. So the appearance of Guy Barker in the concert's second half was singularly appropriate. The UK trumpeter contributed tasteful muted obbligati to Merrill's vocal lines in such songs as *Born to be Blue* and *'S Wonderful*, but it was his stridently lyrical solos that truly impressed.

Although Merrill can no longer entirely rely on sure intonation and control, her uniquely smoky voice still visibly affects audiences, and there are few more poignant interpreters of the confessional ballad.

CHRIS PARKER

ENTERTAINMENTS

CLASSICAL CONCERTS

APOLLO CHAMBER ORCHESTRA MOZART 40 BACH Cantata 51; Suite No 3 8 Apr, 7.30, St John's Smith Sq. 0171-222 1061 £16-7.50

CABARET

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THE TIMES THURSDAY APRIL 6 1995

THEATRE: David Troughton steals a rollicking Jonson revival; an old man's tender and powerful memories of Ireland

Sympathy for the devil

DONALD COOPER



Joanna Roth, David Troughton and Douglas Henshall in a scene from Ben Jonson's satire of Jacobean London, *The Devil is an Ass*

How best to evoke a hell adequate to Ben Jonson's ebullient imagination on the Swan's bare apron-stage? Bunny Christie and Matthew Warchus, respectively designer and director of this seldom-performed satire, make a pretty good stab at it.

Satan himself, who stands high in a black-blue haze wearing what seems to be a bathing cap, may look rather like a champion diver wondering where the water has gone; but his metallic boom echoes impressively enough for us to see why the creatures below wince and cringe.

And they are terrific: bloated green-grey reptiles whose cow-heads and webbed wings might have been jointly concocted by Tenniel, Aleister Crowley and Stephen King. Certainly, you would not want one of them knocking on the door and offering his services as butler.

The Devil is an Ass
Swan, Stratford

But that is what John Dougall's Pug proceeds to do, borrowing the body of a recently hanged cutpurse in order to dupe the upwardly mobile Fitzdottrel into employing him. And so begins one of the long moral jokes in which Jonson gloried. Which turns out to be the slyer, harder and wickeder, Satan's emissary or Jacobean London? Pug himself provides the answer, for he ends up begging his master to return him to the relative decency of Hell, brimstone and all.

It might have been more of a contest if Jonson had not cheated a bit and Warchus had not condoned the swindle. Pug is awfully naive and passive for even a minor devil and Dougall cuts a wan, hapless figure in the role. But then he has to be cudgelled by his master, thrown into jail and generally made to look as if he comes from the sticks rather than the Styx. In this production, the poor hick is even manacled and abused by sex-mad harpies with whips.

But by the end you are willing to overlook the emasculation of the foul fiend and concentrate on what matters: Jonson's gleefully cynical portrayal of a metropolis given up to greed, trickery and folly.

The con-games that ensue are not as much fun as their counterparts in *The Alchemist*, nor do they have the size and weight they do in *Volpone*. *The Devil is an Ass* is a less inventive, resonant piece than either. But, with David Troughton as the prime victim and John Nettles as principal rogue, the play does have an authentically Jonsonian feel. Warchus's revival could probably have more bite, but it is not lacking in energy and momentum.

Nettles's Merecraft is a recognisably modern figure beneath the Jacobean robes, a sauntering, smiling wheeler-dealer whose wheezes range from creating a monopoly in toothpicks to selling phoney honours. Fitzdottrel's extreme gullibility is harder to credit. But that is forgiveable when the role provides the RSC's latest high-flyer with so many comic opportunities. Looking like a cross between Jimmy Hill and Stonehenge, Troughton half-struts, half-clomps about the stage, eyes agog at the prospect of becoming the Duke of Drowned Land. He makes you believe that, like many of Jonson's mono-maniacs, he will do anything for gain. If that means hiring his wife to an admirer to pay for a cloak, or signing away his fortune and then accusing her of witchcraft, that's fine by him.

The supporting cast includes Joanna Roth as this seriously put-upon spouse, Sheila Steafel as a brassy fraudster, Douglas Henshall as a lover who ends up coyly disguised as a lacquered Spanish equivalent of the Avon lady, and Christopher Godwin as a spindly, wizened cross between a daddy-long-legs and the ghost of Walter Ralegh.

But the evening mainly belongs to Troughton and his "blasted flesh". He ends Volpone-style, deceiving the authorities from the safety of a sickbed. He fakes levitation, spits out bits of factitious fire, drools shaving foam, cries "poul, joul, knight, shite", and looks as if his head is about to twirl in circles.

Though Troughton's face was sometimes hidden from me by bad blocking — a frequent complaint among audiences at the Swan — I do not think there is an actor who could spoof *The Exorcist* more entertainingly.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

A broken mind to break hearts

HERE is another masterly work to receive its first production, like *Death and the Maiden*, in the Royal Court's artic theatre. A memory play, a play of griefs and partings, mingled with the clear joys of childhood, and recalled in fragments by an old man broken by the irrevocable changes in his world.

His world is the Ireland that ended when the last British troops left Dublin in 1922. Thomas Dunne, superbly played by Donal McCann, was the last Catholic head of the Dublin Metropolitan Police, responsible for Dublin Castle, the heart of British rule in Ireland. Proud to have served the Crown, a Wicklow man treasuring the tastes, sights and scents of the country he loves.

The Steward of Christendom
Theatre Upstairs

In the eyes of those who want historical forces neatly cut and parted a man like Dunne should have been an impossibility, and since he existed might be better forgotten. The orderly at the asylum where he is confined, sometime in the 1930s, addresses him with open contempt. But there must have been many like him, obedient and patriotic at a time when the meaning of patriotism was being redefined. Sebastian Barry, the play's Dublin-born author, has been astute in picking on Dunne as a figure whose rank and duties highlight their equivocal position.

Dunne is also the author's great-grandfather, and this play is the fifth in a series that looks, as he puts it, for the lost, hidden or seldom mentioned people in one Irish family. The strengths of this latest piece, produced by the Royal Court in association with Out of Joint, establish Barry as a dramatist of the finest sort.

From the opening moments when Dunne is in his narrow bed, shaking himself free of a dream where a boy is marvelling at the flash of a reaper's scythe, the language draws us into the heart of the man. When McCann sits up and reveals his careworn, crumpled face, vacancy in his stare, precision in all his movements, the performance fastens us in an embrace that grips until the exquisite closing scene — asleep again and united with a vanished child.

For this is far more than a play about a particular political time. Like the legendary British king whose wits also came and went, Dunne has three daughters whose lives he has variously afflicted. They walk into his memory from the alcoves of Julian McGowan's bare, transparent-walled set. Scenes of bickering and resentment alternate with episodes so tender and affecting that from all sides come the sound of tears.

In a powerfully sustained image, the crucial events in Dunne's remembered life occur at dawn or dusk, the moments when one time gives place to the next. It is no surprise to learn that Barry is also a poet.

Under Max Stafford-Clark's direction, beautifully paced and balanced, the company give performances of lucid clarity. Cara Kelly, Tina Kellegher and Aislin McGuckin are the daughters, the eldest nervous and married, the second burdened with her father, and the youngest in Ohio. But in Dunne's restless mind none of them, nor his son, dead in the trenches, ever moves far afield.

JEREMY KINGSTON

MAKE A DINNER DATE

LONDON Duchess Theatre FOUR years ago, Marc Camoletti's comedy *Don't Dress For Dinner* opened in the West End — and it's still there, playing to packed houses and rapidly becoming a theatre legend.

The play stars Michael Shannon as Martin, a man invited to spend a relaxing weekend at his friend's country house, only to stumble into a chaotic scenario of mistaken identities, secret relationships and desperate cover-ups.

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DANCE: A dose of Czech nationalism; plus, Mark Murphy's latest

A long way on a little

Chamber Ballet Prague
Sadler's Wells

NECESSITY is the mother of Pavel Smok's invention. With little or no money in the budget to hire outside choreographers, Smok has had to rely on his own dance-making skills to feed the repertoire of his Chamber Ballet Prague. Seven of the eight pieces the company brings to London this week are by him.

This makes for a problematic evening. On the evidence of the company's opening programme, Smok is a choreographer of modest talents with occasional bursts of unexpected and beautiful imaginings. But there are not enough of them to forestall the realisation that his ideas run out of steam long before the music (all of it Czech) is over.

Trio in G minor, set to Smetana, could be quite a good piece if the score were half as long. Two women and one man form a trio (ostensibly a father and his two daughters), finding comfort from tragedy in their unity, constantly returning to the physical affirmation of each other. These points of contact deliver the most striking linkages, capped by certain recurring motifs — a head cradled in a cupped hand, for example. But once Smok's choreographic itinerary has been laid out, the unfolding of it is rather predictable. And the stretched sonorities of both movement and music are overlaid with a sweetness that becomes finally indigestible.

The earliest work on the programme, *Intimate Letters* (to Janáček's Second String Quartet, played live by the Brno Quartet), comes from 1969 and shows the naivety of Smok at the beginning of his career. His desire to create "a symbolic cycle of the artist's life, moving from birth to death and on to a new life" is taken to literal extremes. We see the birth pains of the artist's mother, the artist chasing his inspiration, death stalking the artist. Each phase is signalled by the changing hairdo of the lead female, who is first mother, then lover, muse and grim reaper. The piece is so burdened with transparent meaning, it can barely stand up.

Far better is Smok's other Janáček offering, *Sinfonietta*, a more purposeful and layered work from 1985, coloured by a greater rhythmic variation and alive with bright, joyous accents. Here, at last, the dancers come on strong as they answer the call of Janáček's army of trumpets (taped, unfortunately). Completing the programme is Jiri Kylian's *Evening Songs* (to Dvořák), a work that carries the familiar Kylian calling-card of bodies in lyrical supplication to the fundamental life cycle of hardship and survival. The dancers perform it with almost religious respect.

DEBRA CRAINE



Smok at his best: the Prague dancers in *Sinfonietta*

No issue too big

V-Tol Dance Company
The Place

MARK MURPHY promises more on paper than he delivers. If you had asked me whether his latest touring piece for V-Tol Dance Company "examines the inner processes that determine how a human being reacts and behaves", I would have replied absolutely not — except that is what the publicity claims.

Scientists have been wrestling with questions of human motivation for centuries. But that does not daunt Murphy and *In the Privacy of My Own* purports to address such sweeping issues as how "memories, instincts, emotions, physical impulses and outside influences converge to arrive at a single human action". Why aim for inflated objectives which you spectacularly fail to deliver? I would have said that the piece depicted a triangular relationship, delving so little under the characters' skins that it never got past black leather jackets. I wouldn't have *minded* if Murphy's intentions had been just to depict a triangular relationship. That way he might have focused more on individualising the performers and developing the choreography.

As it is the piece scatters its energies on tactics which you suspect have deep significance, but are too imprecise to reach their mark. A brief prologue shows performers lying naked, as their clothes are thrown at them: a recorded voice breaks into intermittent panting or intones such gems as "fear is a painful emotion excited by danger". Tracy Mackenna's sound-score also includes screeches and percussion that might be just the thing to trigger your migraine.

Where grandiose ambition is matched by result, however, is in the stage design. Setting, lighting and film projections satisfyingly coalesce to create colours, shadows and figures that overlap and bounce off each other. Different screens form layers of celluloid silhouettes among which circulate the flesh-and-blood ones of the dancers.

Murphy has benefited from his study of film techniques. But his choreography stays monotonously tense and limited. The dancers chugged and jolted with selfless vigour and deserved every ounce of applause that met this vacuous piece.

NADINE MEISNER



THE WAR NOBODY WON

20 years on, The Sunday Times Magazine goes back to Vietnam.

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How the past is always with us

Peter Ackroyd enjoys a bold attempt to excavate the veins of myth beneath our environment



The landscape Monet fled: Paris besieged in 1871, from *Claude Monet: Impressions of France* by John Russell Taylor (Collins & Brown, £14.99)

LANDSCAPE AND MEMORY
By Simon Schama
HarperCollins, £30

The premise of this voluminous study is that landscape has always been a human construction: nature and perception cannot be separated, as every schoolchild knows, and Simon Schama has decided to explore some of the effects of this familiar if misunderstood symbiosis. His purpose, then, is to begin "an excavation below our conventional sight-level to recover the veins of myth and memory *that lie beneath the surface*". We might continue the same metaphor by noting that this is in part familiar *territory*, and Schama sometimes covers *old ground* — even, on occasions, wanders down a *false trail* — but, to the greatest *extent*, this is a vigorous and invigorating book.

He begins in "Wood", moves upon "Water" and ascends "Rock" before conflating them in the great pleasure gardens of the past commonly known as Arcadia. Water leads to myths of *fons sapientiae* and theories of arterial circulation, while "Rock" takes on the iconography of Mount Rushmore or the tenor of Burke's *Philosophical Enquiry into the Sublime and the Beautiful*. Schama moves from the history of bison in Lithuania to the fate of a manuscript by Tacitus, from Bernini to Sir Walter Raleigh. Modern cultural history has become an endlessly fascinating game of dice where skill and coincidence work together.

That is why this is also a very personal book. Schama's ancestors came from the borderland of Poland and Lithuania, rural Jews who worked in the "primeval forests" of that region. So he himself goes back into the dark wood of inheritance and, in recounting the troubled past of Lithuania, suggests that "the truly heroic historians of the drama are trees" *since it was the forest* which preserved all sense of national identity. "The trees," he writes, "acted as priestly guardian and instructor in the immemorial continuity of this history."

In that sense the forest can become the natural equivalent of Casaubon's "Key to all Mythologies". It can be seen as a dark wood, the emblem of primitivism or savagery, or as a sacred grove; it can be the sign of fallen nature, as in Milton and Dante, or of unspoilt innocence, as in Rousseau and Thoreau. In terms of German Romanticism, in Schama's words, it offers "the *ancient mystique* of rustic innocence, martial virility, and woodland nativism". *Thus does the forest become* involved in the great cultural debates of the centuries, even in our own time when "Green" politics is part of a general assault upon the values of scientific technology.

In some respects, then, *Landscape and Memory* is a history of imagery as well as a history of ideas; it is both cultural compendium and intellectual analysis. It is also the contemporary version of the Renaissance emblem book, in which the many illustrations (both in colour and monochrome) provide material for meditation and exegesis — a reproduction of Hendrick Goltzius's *Christ on the Tree of Life* is succeeded by Caspar David Friedrich's *Winter Landscape*. It is perfectly appropriate, therefore, that it should have been transformed into a television series (on BBC 2, beginning on April 22).

So the principal concern here is with "the persistence of myth", as Schama puts it, which still remains the great untapped source of cultural, religious and social power. Scratch the surface of a Westerner and you are likely to find a frightened primitive, still concerned with witches and nightfall, serpents and dark woods.

In this context we might consider, as Schama does, "the verdant cross"; it is Christ's hanging place, which is also a *fruitful date palm*, and is one of those myths or images which "yield the deep connections between past and present". When we also read Schama's descriptions of "the kind of drunken routs that were second nature to young English gentlemen abroad" in the mid-18th century, we realise that there are other forms of natural or human continuity.

But his central point remains. Pagan idols were discovered in the foundations of old St Paul's, while the temple of Mithras is very close to Wren's cathedral. This echoic sense of the past — these "connections", to employ Schama's word — are now being explored in fields as diverse as biology and fiction, and it comes as no surprise that Schama himself is attracted to that almost spiritual sense of place which is also being explored by certain London novelists. Clerkenwell and Limehouse are, in a sense, as old as the great forests. Perhaps these concerns will be taken more seriously in the new millennium. We shall see.

It would be wrong to suggest that this book is concerned only with theoretical inquiry. It is a book about specific places — the Nile, Yosemite, Versailles — and about specific, remarkable people. Here is John Taylor, the 17th-century London "Water Poet" who went on public and elaborate "pilgrimages" along the rivers of England. Here is Gutzon Borglum, the sculptor of Mount Rushmore who was also a member of the Ku-Klux-Klan. Here is Claude François Denecourt, the tracker of the forest of Fontainebleau, who in the mid-19th century designed the first woodland walk and thus became the creator of the "hiker". These are the true heroes of our cultural history.

But Schama is as good a reader of paintings as he is of people and, among other things, *Landscape and Memory* might pass for a perfectly respectable work of art history; the mountain landscape, for example, can be analysed through a variety of pictorial representations. Of course the danger is that the explicator begins to see meanings and allegories everywhere — but that is precisely Schama's point.

The natural world is indeed made up of signs and emblems as well as rocks and waters — it derives its real significance from the minds of men and women. That is why natural history programmes on television are so profoundly unsatisfactory: there are endless analyses of the technology of flowers, for example, but no concern at all for the symbolic and religious connotations of floral imagery. We may see plants and flowers in "close-up", but we do not see them clearly.

The book begins with primeval forests and ends with Central Park, which may or may not be the wrong way round. In any case it does not matter. Simon Schama can only come full circle in a book that discusses the permanence of myth and the continuity of past and present. As he suggests at the very beginning, "through a mantle of ash can emerge a shoot of restored life". *Landscape and Memory* is a fine study of that endless restoration.

BACKLIST

Books by Simon Schama

PATRIOTS AND LIBERATORS
Revolution in the Netherlands, 1780-1813
1977, Fontana £9.99 pbk

THE EMBARRASSMENT OF RICHES
Interpretation of Dutch Culture in the Golden Age
1987, Fontana £14.99 pbk

CITIZENS
Chronicle of the French Revolution
1989, Viking £25

DEAD CERTAINTIES
Unwarranted Speculations
1991, Granta £7.99 pbk

THE TIMES/DILLONS LECTURE

Landscape & Memory: an evening with Simon Schama

SIMON SCHAMA, author of the award-winning *Citizens* and one of the most imaginative and exciting historians writing today, will talk about his latest book *Landscape & Memory* at *The Times*/Dillons lecture on Tuesday, April 11. *Landscape & Memory* is a thought-provoking and ground-breaking study of the interflow of ideas between culture and landscape. Schama, described as "the Mozart of history", will show how our environment is affected by the way we think. A five-part television series, based on the book, will be shown on BBC2 in late April. The lecture, chaired by Matthew d'Ancona of *The Times*, will be held at the London School of Economics, Houghton Street, London, WC2, at 7.30pm on April 11. Tickets at £10 (concessions £7.50), which include £5 off the price of the book, are available by *ringing 0171-915 6612, by faxing the coupon below to 0171-580 7680*, or by sending it with your remittance to Dillons the Bookstore, 82 Gower Street, London, WC1, where tickets can also be purchased.

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Paradise lost

Derwent May

PARIS
City of Light
1919-1939
By Vincent Cronin
HarperCollins, £20

PARIS between the wars was throbbing with intellectual and artistic excitement, and in his new book Vincent Cronin sets out to tell the story of it. He covers a lot of ground: from the poets and filmmakers to the fashion designers and the theologians, with brisk sketches of the work of hundreds of individuals. But it quickly emerges that he does not approve of many of them — and at the end of his book he blames them collectively for France's unpreparedness for war and defeat.

It is an arguable thesis, but unfortunately it is presented here in a jejune way. The underlying thesis is that if they had all stuck to good, sensible Catholicism, it would have been much better both for themselves and France. For instance, the trouble with Jean Cocteau and his hedonistic friends was that for them "true north lay not where the Church or the wisdom of the past said, but in the intensity of one's own feelings" — and "subjectivism of this order went hand in hand with disdain of civic duty".

Among the composers, he pats Ravel on the back for "music that pleases by its lightness, and in this mirrored its period". But what he really approves of is the revival of religious music that began in 1935 when a friend of Poulenc (or "Poupole") was decapitated in a car accident, and Poulenc "found his faith welling back".

As for the young Jean-Paul Sartre, he is dismissed as "a pampered only son who became bitter on finding that the world did not particularly like him". Cronin thinks he wrote *La Nausée* in 1938 only in the hope of repeating the financial success of Céline's *Voyage au bout de la nuit* six years before.

The women in the artists' lives are generally referred to as "lady-friends", with hardly a hint of sexual immorality ruffling the surface. François Mauriac, we learn, "virtually lost his faith" when he found "fidelity within marriage an almost impossible ideal" — but he was "rescued by an intelligent priest who took him for retreats to Solesnes and Lourdes".

In fact, *Paris: City of Light* reminds one of those Catholic sex guides for the young that used to be sold in France. They were very sound on morals, but gave the young people no information about what they really wanted to know.

The code of Bertie and Alexandra

John Grigg

EDWARD VII
By George Plumptre
Pavilion, £19.99

King Edward VII went to some lengths to make life difficult for his biographers. In his will he directed that all his private correspondence should be destroyed, and the instruction was faithfully carried out after his death. Already, while he was King, vast quantities of Queen Victoria's letters relating to personal and family affairs had been burnt on his orders. Nevertheless, at least 25 books have been written about him, including most notably Sidney Lee's two-volume official life, published in 1927, and Philip Magnus's admirable single-volume life, published in 1960.

Now we have another biography of him, by an author well known to garden-loving readers of *The Times*. The blurb claims that George Plumptre has drawn on "much previously unpublished material", but seasoned readers should expect no great surprises. Though he has clearly made more extensive use than previous writers of the papers of Edward's friend Charles Carrington, Lord Lincolnshire, and has also extracted some new material from the much-used Esher papers, in all essentials the narrative will be familiar to anyone who has read earlier books on the subject.

This is not to say that writing the book was a waste of time — far from it. Quite apart from providing, as it will, a thoroughly pleasant and readable account of Edward's life for those who come new to it, the book also brings a distinctive judgment to bear on his personality, and on his significance for the monarchy. In particular, it is the first life of him to appear since the public has become obsessed with the problems of another heir to a long-reigning Queen, similarly married to a woman of exceptional glamour, and similarly in trouble with the Seventh Commandment.

In fact, there are more differences than similarities between the two cases. Edward had none of the intellectual pretensions of his great-great-grandson, the present Prince of Wales, but he did have an abundance of the more useful and appropriate quality of common sense.

Above all, he had a strong sense of royal fitness. One cannot imagine him ever complaining publicly of his parents — though he had more grounds for complaint than Prince Charles has — and it would have been inconceivable for him to allow a journalist free access to his most intimate records for the purpose of writing a book about him.

As for his wife, Alexandra, she is comparable to Diana, Princess of Wales, in being beautiful but not very bright, and in having a natural flair for comforting the sick. But there the resemblance ends. Despite her husband's infidelities, she remained loyal to him and to the institution in which, by marrying him, she had become a key figure. As Plumptre says, she and Edward (or Bertie, as he was known in the family) "enjoyed each other's company and soon developed mutual pride, he for her beauty, she for his bonhomie and gusto and for the position he had given her by marriage". Their partnership was based on "a code, difficult to understand today, but not unusual among their contemporaries". There was much to be said for that code.

Edward was gross in his appetites and a relentless pleasure-seeker, but also good-natured and generous. He was shrewd about people and had the faculty, most valuable in a royal, of seldom forgetting a face. He had the equally valuable gift of being able to make a good speech off the cuff, and could do it in three languages. Unlike previous Hanoverians, he got on well with his eldest son and gave him every encouragement. (Unfortunately that son — the future George V — reverted to family type in failing to treat his own eldest son with understanding.)



Prince Edward and Princess Alexandra at Cowes, 1870

Though Edward was certainly no radical, he knew the time of day and adapted himself tolerably well to the requirements of constitutional monarchy in the early 20th century; for instance, in establishing good personal relations with Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman before he became Liberal Prime Minister, and in taking the view that the Lords would be unwise to reject Lloyd George's 1909 Budget.

Plumptre rightly stresses Edward's realisation that in the age of a burgeoning popular press the monarch needed to be visible. His own temperament was suitably outgoing, and perhaps his supreme quality was a capacity for enjoyment that communicated itself to the world at large — a quality shared, in our own time, by Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.

The author thanks the book's editor "for all her work", but the thanks are unmerited. I have seldom read a book with more mistakes of the kind that editors exist to correct. Lord Randolph Churchill is repeatedly spelt "Lord Randolf"; Keir Hardie appears as "Kier Hardie" and Lord Mayo as "Lord Maho"; Nicolson is spelt correctly and incorrectly (as "Nicholson") on successive lines; Alexandra is at one point spelt "Alexander", and Alexandria as "Alexandra". Worse still, Biarritz is located on the Mediterranean. The book deserves a second edition for its own sake, but not least to enable such blemishes to be removed.

An eye for a truce

Richard Owen

BATTLING FOR PEACE
Memoirs
By Shimon Peres
Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £20

STATESMEN often set out to reflect on the historic events they have helped to shape, but end up settling old scores with rivals. Shimon Peres, the Israeli Foreign Minister and former Prime Minister, sets out to do both. Israel has always been a combination of noisy quarrelsome politics on the one hand and soaring visions of the Promised Land on the other. In Peres's case the quarrel is with Yitzhak Rabin, the present Prime Minister and the man with whom Peres shares the credit for Israel's great attempt to achieve Middle East peace.

Peres has made a long journey from childhood in a Belorussian Jewish shtetl, kibbutz life in British Mandate Palestine and the politics of the Zionist Left to high office, culminating in the Oslo accords with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Here he sets out his blueprint for "the new Middle East" — a place where precious resources, instead of being poured away on the arms race and other "harmful or pointless causes", will be used to raise living standards. "Making peace in our region would not only put an end to the devastating drain of blood and treasure, it would also promote the enhanced generation of wealth," he writes.

FEW OTHERS can offer such a vision with such authority. The Oslo accords were largely the result of Peres's negotiating skill, and the "Gaza First" proposal was very much his brainchild. The saga of the Jewish nation, he writes, is the story not only of a land and a faith, but also of "exceptional individuals". He is speaking of his heroes, such as David Ben-Gurion and Moshe Dayan, but the observation could well apply to himself.

Peres here recounts his bid to reach a secret peace with King Husain of Jordan, long before "it seemed remotely possible". They met in April 1987 at the London home of Lord Mishcon, best known nowadays as legal adviser to the Princess of Wales. Peres recalls wearing "my most elegant suit and a stylish brown wig" for the clandestine meeting. He also discloses that he and the King, unlikely as it may seem, "went into the kitchen to help with the washing up", and there began the dialogue which led to a secret agreement on an international peace conference at which the PLO would be sidelined by the device of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

THE DEAL was sabotaged by Yitzhak Shamir, the right-wing Likud leader with whom Peres then shared the premiership on a rotating basis. Progress, Peres observes, became impossible until their coalition was replaced by a Labour Government led by Rabin. Yet it is Rabin rather than Shamir for whom Peres reserves his bile. In 1992 he was defeated by Rabin for the Labour leadership in a close contest. This was a "painful defeat", he writes, adding with hurt pride: "People made a point of saying they felt I had been hard done by."

It is perhaps all the more remarkable that over the past three years the Peres-Rabin rivalry has been set aside. "Bitterness is not statesmanship," Peres writes. He and Rabin were able to meet alone during the secret talks with the PLO and "to argue, without the argument becoming personal, and without it leaking out in the next day's press".

But the Israeli mood has swung to the Right as the Israel-PLO deal fails — so far, at least — to deliver a comprehensive peace. Peres does not address this. There are copious references in the index to Yoni Netanyahu, who died a hero at Entebbe, but none to his brother Benjamin, Shamir's hardline successor as Likud leader. Peres concludes by outlining his plans for a prosperous, tolerant, creative Middle East. But much of his life's work may yet be undone by Netanyahu and the Israeli Right, who detest everything Peres — and indeed Rabin — stand for.

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The heroine of this novel is indifferent to emancipation, says **Rachel Cusk**, but her seduction causes her to seek salvation as a writer

Victorian enlightenment

ELECTRICITY
By Victoria Glendinning
Hutchinson, £14.99

Electricity, the rising night-sun of science by whose illumination the mystery of darkness would be unveiled, presides with tyrannical force over Victoria Glendinning's second novel. It is an arid, unnatural fire which consumes not fuel but secrets, complexity and shadows, a servant who won't be mastered, a dangerous, democratic light by which "everything is made significant, so nothing is".

Electricity is set in the 1880s, when human progress was high theatre, the property of eccentricity and genius and the food of suspicion and fear. It is a story of 20th-century hearts in Victorian bodies (and bodices, discreetly ripped), whose adventures in the moral and social matrix of the period are related by a backward-looking voice not wholly circumscribed by its language. This voice purports to be that of Charlotte Fisher, our heroine, who describes events in a series of notebooks. In reality it is a more explicit, liberated narrative, one which is of the future and does not waste too much energy pretending that it isn't.

In the absence of full-blooded pastiche, what the novel instead supplies is a modern experience of century-old repressions, correctly presupposing our interest in a history over which fiction does not draw a veil. Glendinning's is a well-researched tour, designed to satisfy our curiosity: a sensory museum in which one can feel the grip and itch of the corset, the humiliations of privy and chamber-pot, the greater privations of sex and class. Sweeping aside our knowledge of what was to come, she reinflates the future's punctured mystery.

Charlotte Fisher's tragedy — and also her redemption — lies close to the bone of this narrative. Her identity, as a Victorian woman, may be in chains, but her uninstructed passions are free and once exercised give her the illusion of a liberty she does not possess. The visionaries of the women's rights movement, like those of science, appear tiresome to her, always beating at doors in the attempt to break them down: hers is the passive female consciousness which blithely treads a path of self-delight, only to find her way blocked by those same doors, still locked against her.

Her assets, like the best of heroines, are those of youth, beauty and wit; what she seeks to purchase with them, in the old coin of romance, is escape from her straightened circumstances, adventure and happiness. In novels, romance might afford her all these; in this notebook-testimony, however, reality holds the lease on possibility. Those who deal in


Victoria Glendinning: spirited

reality are those to whom the future belongs, such as Charlotte's husband Peter, an ambitious electrical engineer who — alas — cools her ardour with talk of cables, generators and electrical circuits. It is George Godwin, a country peer and dilettante, who speaks the language of love, taught him by generations of ease and indulgence.

Charlotte encounters Godwin when she and her newly wedded husband are summoned to his country estate, where Peter is to undertake the installation of electricity at the house. The job takes some months and Charlotte, having caught the master's fancy, is plucked from the still-fragile stem of her marriage for his delectation.

The qualities with which he lures her — sophistication, wealth, charm and fancy conversation, none of which her husband possesses — are, of course, the tools of her exploitation, the proof of a lifetime's satisfied appetites whose lazy, random hunger she has momentarily awakened. Even as she dallies in the maw of the ruling classes, however, Charlone sees no danger: what in fact endangers her is her femininity, a denotation which robs her of agency or will, whose only power and whose most forceful instinct is to invite and secure ownership.

What Glendinning offers us here is a sensibility which conspires against itself, which is trapped but certainly not blameless — Charlotte turns down the chance of further education and spurns opportunities to support the campaign for women's suffrage — in the matter of its own disenfranchisement. The novel's fascination with this period in social history, and the beginnings of an ineradicable alteration of notions of power over which it presided, is designed to prick the modern conscience.

It inquires of our own courage, not just as readers being seduced, like Charlotte, by the easy romance of Godwin and resisting, as she does, the harsher prospect of progress and change; but also as the heirs and beneficiaries of these struggles against class, gender and ignorance. Charlotte is a girl of intelligence, resourcefulness and spirit: stripped of our advantages, would we have fared any better?

Having survived a series of catastrophes, Charlotte finally makes her escape to the republic of consciousness, writing: it is an appropriate designation, secured with experience and exile, but it is also a casting-off of personal history, a liberation of the female identity. "It has been an emptying-out. I remember less and less . . . A twig broom is sweeping out the inside of my head with long, slow strokes."

This blankness is of course the twist in Charlotte's tale: her "story" arises because she is a woman, a person to whom things happen, a conductor of activity and energy. It is fitting to this excellent, intelligent novel that its heroine should be denied a resolution: Glendinning leaves her fate in the balance, returning the business of what will happen next to her own hands.

The babes lost in Hollywood

Sean French

PLAYLAND
By John Gregory Dunne
Granta, £14.99

Almost 60 years ago, Graham Greene wrote a notorious review of a Shirley Temple movie suggesting that she had a paedophiliac appeal to screen audiences. The resulting legal action bankrupted the publication, *Night and Day*, in which it appeared. But a couple of years ago, Shirley Temple's memoirs revealed that even the studio executives who had sued on her behalf had constantly attempted to molest her. Arthur Freed (who later produced *Singin' in the Rain*) exposed himself to her in his office: "I thought he was a producer, not an exhibitor."

We can still enjoy the great Hollywood films, but our illusions about the industry and culture that produced them have been totally (and rightly) shattered. It is the depraved world behind the illusion that is the subject of John Gregory Dunne's new novel. Its central figure, the child star Blue Tyler, is an embodiment and victim of Hollywood's dark side, a Hyde to Shirley Temple's Dr Jekyll, and born in the same year, 1928. The young Tyler was one of the most famous film stars in the world, but failed to make the transition to mature success and disappeared entirely, rather in the way that Louise Brooks did when her film career stalled.

Jack Broderick, a screenwriter and son of a billionaire, stumbles across the ageing Tyler, now living in a trailer park near Detroit and attempts to find out about her life for a planned feature film, talking to an ex-lover, an ex-director, and interviewing the faded star herself. Tyler was at the nexus of Hollywood corruption, sexually abused as a child by her employer and then herself sexually voracious. She fell in love with the gangster, Jacob King, who was murdered while attempting to develop his own casino in Las Vegas. As Broderick digs deeper, he finds himself caught in a complicated web comparable to the plots of the baggy Victorian novels to which he ruefully refers.

Much of the action in this 500-page novel is deliberately imprecise and intangible, described at second or third hand, through myth and rumour, self-serving memories or deliberate lies. The intrusions of the media, obsessed with Hollywood sleaze, confuse the issue even more. At the book's hilarious, ghastly climax, the *Oprah Winfrey Show* gets wind of the Tyler story and the hidden scandals of her life and the child star becomes an object of attention, with authentic pundits like Pauline Kael and Norman Podhoretz appearing on television to pronounce on the issue.

The oblique, deliberately teasing method of Dunne's narrative runs obvious risks. His semi-fictionalised gossip has to compete with the "authentic" Hollywood gossip that is now well-known, and some of the ground Dunne covers now seems well-trodden. The links between organised crime and Hollywood, and the early struggles over the Las Vegas casinos, were more powerfully explored 20 years ago in the screen version (not the novel) of *The Godfather*.

But Dunne has an excellent ear for seamy dialogue, a convincing grasp of the institutionalised corruption of the American film industry at the onset of its decline and a craftsman's skill at organising his plot, even in a book that makes full allowance for the influence on our lives of coincidence, chance and sheer bad luck. Rooted in the cinematic culture, and the fascination it holds for us, *Playland* is a better film than any of the actual films (such as *True Confessions*) that Dunne has written.



Friday afternoon at the Eel and Pie Shop, Wandsworth Bridge Road: from *Eels, Pie and Mash: Photographs by Chris Clunn*, published by the Museum of London (£9.95 pbk) with a foreword by George Melly to coincide with its exhibition, April 4 to July 2

Victims of good vibes

Kate Hubbard

BECAUSE IT MAKES MY HEART BEAT FASTER
By Peter Michael Rosenberg
Simon & Schuster, £14.99

When Jonathan Fairchild is awoken one night by the sounds of an intruder, his immediate reaction is that his wife, Liz, who has recently left him, must have returned. On investigation, "a huge, blackened claw" pins him to the wall, a gun is pointed to his head and an unknown assailant informs him that he, Jonathan, a name selected from the telephone directory, has been "chosen" to die. So begins Peter Michael Rosenberg's third novel, a dark tale which touches on the latent violence lurking beneath the most civilised of exteriors.

It soon becomes clear that this may be more than just a random attack. While his assailant claims to be seeking atonement for injustices perpetrated by an indifferent society, his cryptic asides — "I know the damage you've caused" — indicate he may be avenging a crime perpetrated by Jonathan himself. This blurring of distinction between aggressor and victim is carried through to a highly ambiguous ending. At any rate Jonathan feels guilty about something, the clues to which are contained in the central section of the novel.

Jonathan is a teacher of sociology at a London college. Both plausible and progressively unlikeable, he is an unsettling character towards whom Rosenberg skilfully manipulates the reader's sympathies. When we are told that "he could totally beguile an audience with his travel tales, capturing somehow the very essence of Greece with his deeply evocative descriptions", we know he is a man to be avoided. Strangely, Liz, an unsophisticated but independent-minded psychology student, is seduced by such tales. They travel to Greece, where she succumbs to "the island's feel-good vibes", and where Jonathan's simmering resentments surface. They marry in haste and part in circumstances which are only revealed in the final pages and are genuinely shocking.

As romantic histories go this is disappointingly bland, which seems as much due to a failure of language as of imagination. Too frequently the writing descends to cliché. While Rosenberg is good at the workings of terror and guilt, he is altogether less convincing on the subtleties of human relations. Jonathan's ambivalence towards violence is crudely linked to a childhood memory of an unprovoked assault by a fellow pupil, evoking sensations of both horror and a sexually charged excitement.

Unfortunately, Rosenberg's characters do not sustain their psychological underpinning, nor his larger themes: the individual versus society, nature versus nurture. Dashes of psychology or sociology are employed, unnecessarily, to lend intellectual ballast to a compelling but essentially lightweight novel. Still, Rosenberg is an accomplished storyteller and he maintains a brisk pace. It may not make the heart beat faster, but the pages turn enjoyably enough.

Impresario of modernist classics

Olivia Kilmartin

CRADLES OF THE NEW
Writings on Music 1951-1991
By Donald Mitchell
Faber, £30/£16.99 pbk

Donald Mitchell is best known as the leading authority on the works of Britten and Mahler. This collection of articles, BBC talks, lectures and programme notes is published by Faber to mark Mitchell's 70th birthday: the fruits of a remarkably varied career as publisher, Professor of Music at Sussex University, Chairman of the Performing Right Society, journalist and scholar. It reveals a surprisingly wide and unconventional musical taste, ranging from Delius and Elgar to Max Reger, Kurt Weill and Malcolm Arnold, as well as a passionate interest in the classical music of Thailand.

As Mitchell says in an interview about *Music Survey*, the polemical journal he edited in his twenties with the late Hans Keller, it is hard now to believe how desperately parochial musical life was in postwar Britain. Before the advent of William Glock, who as Controller of Radio 3 changed musical taste in Britain for ever, Mitchell was a crucial voice "attacking the attackers" of the musical modernists who are now considered to be among the greatest composers of the 20th century.

It was a time when newspapers had firm policies on certain composers. Frank Howes, chief music critic of *The Times* in the 1950s, dismissed Schoenberg as not a composer at all. The old *Grove's Dictionary of Music's* derisorily short entry on Mahler treated him as a conductor who wrote a few symphonies in his spare time. Indeed, scholars as respected as Eric Blom could tell Mitchell "the fact is we just don't want Mahler here". Mitchell bravely took up the case of composers like Mahler, Schoenberg and Britten who were ignored or patronised by the musical establishment.

One of the strengths of Mitchell's writing is his essentially musical response to music. As he points out in the first piece collected here, dating from 1955, it was most critics' lack of musicality that prevented them from taking a positive view of contemporary music. He makes a fine distinction between wrong opinions and wrong judgments, the latter being infinitely preferable. Not that Mitchell has been incapable of wrong judgments himself. Reviewing a book by Hindemith, he attacks the composer for the "astonishing blunder" of suggesting that 12-note music had no future. Hindemith has been proved largely right, even if for the wrong reasons.

From these writings, it is clear that Mitchell responds instinctively to British composers whose works show an awareness of music beyond these shores. He is uneasy with Vaughan Williams, for instance, who he thinks is limited by his Englishness. His essays on Elgar are particularly fine: this composer, in one sense English to the core, is placed firmly in a European tradition.

But the musical figure with whom Mitchell is most associated is Benjamin Britten. They struck up a friendship after Mitchell had championed the composer's music in the 1950s (his celebrated article attacking the critics of *Billy Budd* is republished here). It was as the publisher of Britten that Mitchell established a music department at Faber (the prewar publisher of Mitchell friends Auden and Isherwood), and it was under Britten's guidance that Faber Music was able to become one of the most important sponsors of new talent.


Mitchell: rare musicality

Mitchell's most notable contribution to music scholarship is his standard work on the music of Mahler; the first two volumes (out of three so far) have just been reissued by Faber in paperback at £20 each. But these short essays perhaps speak more directly to the reader — what the late Christopher Palmer in his excellent introduction calls "the kindling quality" of his writing. Above all, he stimulates the reader into listening to the music again.

Fly Dutchmen

James Woodall

THE GREAT LONGING
By Marcel Möring
Flamingo, £5.99
paperback original

In his native Holland Marcel Möring's *The Great Longing* has been called a masterpiece. Poetically slim, modern in tone, the novel deals with timeless things: sex and love, destiny, memory. Two brothers and a sister try to work out their lives against an immediate background of unemployment, and against a more thematic one of emotional dispossession. Their parents were killed in a car crash and after years of foster homes, the siblings meet.

The narrator is Sam, twin brother of Lisa, who knocks around with his wild elder brother Raph after being told he no longer needs a guardian. The two boys hit the road for a year, pick up casual labour and get into all manner of scrapes.

Sam, the most sympathetic of the three, feels deep affection for Lisa, a painter and not obviously lovable. Her marriage having come apart, she seeks comfort and a home with her twin. She fades in and out of Sam's life, sometimes blurred, sometimes in sharp focus. No one is happy, no one is still. This is a novel about indirection. It lacks the forced excitement of Jack Kerouac's *On the Road*, with which it could be compared for its evocation of youthful quest. *The Great Longing* is a post-adolescent novel, about adults trying to understand how, without love, they have nevertheless become adults.

In Holland, *The Great Longing* has touched a nerve manifestly raw in many contemporary North European cultures: the necessity of travelling enormous emotional distances to reach even members of your own family. The fact that Möring can make so bleak a condition so compelling guarantees a long life in English translation.

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DAILY TELEGRAPH

PHOENIX PAPERBACK

ROOM SERVICE

High cost of a stay in Britain

BRITISH hotels are among Europe's most expensive, a *Which?* survey out today claims. It says that a typical price of £45 a night for two people in a budget hotel in a holiday area of Britain is second only to Swiss prices and costs about £20 more than the same type of accommodation in France, Italy or Spain.

To get a better deal, the magazine suggests that travellers haggle with hotels or get a travel agency to do it for them. It also points out that some national tourist boards also have discount schemes.

☐ The Ritz Hotel *in Piccadilly is* for the first time *since it opened in* 1906 serving Sunday brunch in the Palm Court lounge. To musical accompaniment, customers can enjoy a menu which ranges from smoked salmon and bagels to an English breakfast. Brunch £16 a person, from 10.30am until 1.30pm: details: 0171-493 8181.

☐ Friendly Hotels has introduced the Favoured Guest Card, an incentive for frequent business travellers. Guests who pay a corporate or full rate receive a stamp for every time they stay in one of the group's 30 hotels. Seven stamps qualify the guest for a free night's accommodation, on a Friday, Saturday or Sunday. *Details: 0181-951 5656.*

☐ *Forte has opened its first* Travelodge hotel in Spain in what is planned to become a 30-strong budget chain. The 40-room Spanish Travelodge is at La Puebla de Alfinde, 12km from Zaragoza, which is halfway between Madrid and Barcelona. Prices are slightly less than the £34.50 a room charged in Britain. The Spanish Travelodge costs about £19 for single occupancy and £29 for double. Details: 0800 850950.

☐ Conference groups of more than 20 delegates planning a meeting in Brussels can combine a trip on the Eurostar train and overnight accommodation *with lunch and* dinner at the *Brussels* Sheraton for a special rate of £199 a person. Hotelpacc, a conference reservations agency, is offering the deal for the summer. Details: 0171-235 9696.

☐ The newly refurbished Shelleys Hotel, a 17th-century listed manor house once owned by the family of Percy Bysshe Shelley at Lewes, near Brighton, is offering two-night packages until May 23 for two people at a rate of £250. The price includes breakfast and dinner on both nights and guests are greeted with a bottle of champagne, flowers and chocolates on arrival. The hotel, which has 19 bedrooms with individual colour schemes and antique furniture, is only four miles from Glyndebourne. Details: 01273 472361.

DAVID CHURCHILL

BARGAIN OF THE WEEK

TAKE an Easter break at any one of *75 hotels in the* Embassy Leisure Breaks programme and get three nights for the price of two, plus discount coupons for more than 750 attractions and 1,500 shops and restaurants. The offer applies from April 13 to 17. Prices vary with each hotel. The Jarvis Leyland Hotel near Preston, for example, costs £59 a person based on double occupancy for three nights. Details: 01345 581811



Germans have now replaced Britons in the tourist league table for Majorca, most popular holiday destination

A blast for the past

Marianne Darch on how Majorca is making more space for tourism

PART of its heritage as a cheap and cheerful British holiday destination has been blasted away as Majorca goes upmarket to please its most populous visitors, the wealthy Germans.

The oldest hotel in the popular resort of Palma Nova was blown up on Saturday. Tourist officials keen to attract more affluent visitors want to reverse decades of uncontrolled growth and to improve the environment.

The four-storey building was flattened by 62 kilograms of strategically placed dynamite, which forced civic dignitaries to leap off a specially constructed podium and run for cover as the dust clouds descended.

The strength of the mark, together with higher prices being offered for hotel beds by German tour operators, has relegated the British to second place in the league table of visitors to Europe's most popular holiday destination.

Last year the number of German tourists who visited Majorca totalled 2.2 million, nearly a third more than the 1993 total, compared with 1.6 million British visitors. The steady increase in German visitors, from about 1.3 million per year in the late Eighties, suggests that the island's biergartens will be in more demand than British football-orientated fun pubs this year.

The island's 600,000-strong indigenous population swells to more than one million in the summer months, placing severe strains on the infrastructure and facilities.

As well as insisting that new hotels create more floor space per room, officials are trying to sweep away the concrete eyesores thrown up over the past 25 years. The destruction of Hotel Playa Palma Nova, the first hotel built in Palma Nova, marked the newfound zeal for what the Spanish are calling "desaturation".

The demolition of the 46-room hotel cost Calvia town council more than £1 million, and is part of a project aimed at eliminating hotels which do not come up to standard along the municipality's 31-mile-long coastline.

Señor Javier Gómez Navarro, Spain's Tourism and Commerce Minister, who flew in from the mainland for the event, says: "This is a symbolic act. It is important to desaturate our coastal areas.

"The Spanish tourist sector is conscious of a need to improve quality. Our ecological surroundings are the vital habitat of both tourists and inhabitants who need more space. To demolish this building will get things going in the right direction."

Calvia, one of Majorca's largest regions, attracts a quarter of the island's visitors and relies on tourism for 82 per cent of its income. New laws mean that 60 square metres of land are needed per bed in new four and five-star accommodation, compared with only 15 square metres required in 1990.

Other improvements, subsidised by the Spanish Government, include the widening of beaches with sand dredged from the sea, the creation of coastal promenades and the burial of unsightly electricity cables.

The Balearic Tourist Ministry has earmarked another 20 hotels in the municipality for demolition when funds allow.

And so to Soho, for uniqueness

Marianne Curphey picks the best from new travel guides on Britain

FIVE new guides to Britain and to London are on sale this month, with one having already provoked hostility from reviewers.

They are *Cadogan's city guide to London*, (£12.99), *Lonely Planet's Britain Travel Survival Kit* (£14.95) aimed at independent travellers of all budgets, the *Rough Guides to England* (£9.99) and *to* London (£8.99) and the *Art in Focus* guide to the capital's artistic attractions.

The *Cadogan guide* has chapters on architecture, Jack the Ripper, Chartism and the Plague, and devotes five pages to lively anecdotal history of the Tower of London. However, the Crown Jewels are "not much to write home about . . . a remarkably tedious collection of royal regalia", it says, concluding that "Londoners are not conned by the trick the Tower is trying to pull, and that is surely why they largely ignore their own most famous landmark".

> 'One of the most beautiful islands in the world'

Of Soho, it claims: "Seediness has always proved strangely alluring in this wild and cosmopolitan district . . . so attractive has Soho become that the trendies have inevitably moved in." Fleet Street, it laments, has lost its heart: "British journalists . . . nowadays are certainly less of an exuberant and high-spirited pack".

The Lonely Planet guide provoked a storm of controversy when it was first reviewed for daring to condemn many of Britain's seaside resorts as tacky and a number of its cities as drab. The main complaints overseas travellers have is with our "woefully inadequate" hotel plumbing and an obsession with queues.

The book is not without praise for our green and pleasant land, however. "To the surprise of many," it says, "Britain remains one of the most beautiful islands in the world. All the words, paintings and pictures that have been produced are not just romantic, patriotic, exaggerations."

Buckingham Palace gets short shrift: "The interiors range from bad kitsch to tasteless opulence," and the Tower of London has "several arduous and time-consuming armament displays".

The Rough Guide to London draws the visitor's attention to gentlemen's clubs, Bishopsgate (site of the IRA bomb blast in 1993), the Isle of Dogs and Bloomsbury. In common with the other guides, it says that the Crown Jewels' display is "efficient and disappointingly swift . . . moving walkways allow just 28 seconds' viewing". Queueing to see Buckingham Palace can take more than two hours and "once inside it is all a bit of an anticlimax, despite the voyeuristic pleasure of a glimpse behind those forbidding walls".

Soho, by contrast, receives wide praise: "There's nowhere else in the city where such diverse slices of London come face to face with each other: businessmen, clubbers, drunks, theatregoers, fashion victims, market stallholders, pimps and prostitutes, politicians. Take it all in, and enjoy — for most of London is not like this!"

Art in Focus is designed to help sightseers to find the gallery or museum of their choice and helps visitors to identify the most notable works of art.

Harvey Elliott reports on a carmaker's move into the holiday business

Land Rover's safari lead

LAND *Rover is moving into the holiday* business with self-drive, off-the-road safaris in some of the most remote parts of Africa. Up to 100,000 British Land Rover owners are being offered the chance to learn rugged, four-wheel driving skills before going on ten-day safaris to rarely visited parts of Zambia, Zimbabwe and Botswana. The British manufacturer has teamed up with the tour operator Abercrombie & Kent to market the holidays — which cost between £2,690 and £3,760 — provided they are bought by existing Land Rover owners.

The most luxurious Range Rover safari is being limited to existing owners. The cost for those who do not drive a Land Rover will be an extra £552 a person.

The safaris start with a day's preparatory driving in the grounds of Eastnor Castle, in Herefordshire, designed to teach the skills needed and also how to avoid damaging the wilderness areas. Convoys of three Land Rovers or Range Rovers will set off with the owners doing their own driving but led by a guide from Abercrombie & Kent.



Russel Turnham, the marketing operations director for Land Rover, said yesterday that the idea had grown from the off-road facilities offered to journalists and dealers, many of whom had suggested that this could be extended to existing owners.

He added: "The safaris will be tough and will put both cars and their drivers to the test. But there will be portable showers, toilets and dining tents." There would also be some nights in lodges and hotels, he said, in areas that most people would never have the chance to see.

Martin Thompson, Abercrombie & Kent's managing director, said the new holidays, due to begin in June, would be an opportunity for adventurous tourists to "fulfil their childhood dreams".

The price includes scheduled flights to Harare, where the holidaymakers will be met by private planes to take them to Victoria Falls, which will be used as a base. Each vehicle will be in constant radio contact with base and the Range Rovers will be equipped with satellite communication equipment.

Though this year's four-month-long programme is an experiment, Land Rover and Abercrombie & Kent already expect the 200 available places to be oversubscribed. If the project is a success, it is hoped to expand the programme next year by placing more Land Rovers and Range Rovers on site ready to be picked up by holidaymakers on arrival.

Ulster's new tourism

THE peace dividend continues to pay out in Northern Ireland. Now the leading short-break operator Crystal Premier is offering holidays in the Province for the first time.

Prices start at £189 a person for flights and two nights' dinner, bed and breakfast at the four-star Clandeboye Lodge in Bangor, Co Down.

☐ Denis MacShane, Labour MP for Rotherham, wants the Government to reduce the airport tax on flights to Malta and Cyprus from £10 to £5.

He explains: "I really do not think it right that we, as two European Union countries bordering the Mediterranean but discriminate against two Commonwealth nations."

☐ The first casino in an airport duty-free area has been opened at Schiphol, Amsterdam. About 350 visitors a day, mainly travellers using the airport to change flights, are expected.

At least 15 currencies can be exchanged at the casino's cashdesk for chips, token or coins to play on the roulette or blackjack tables or to slot into the 75 coin machines.

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THE TIMES THURSDAY APRIL 6 1995

Law Report April 6 1995 House of Lords

Decision to introduce non-statutory scheme instead of Act is unlawful

Regina v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Fire Brigades Union and Others

Before Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Lord Mustill, Lord Lloyd of Berwick and Lord Nicholls of Birkenhead

[Speeches April 5]

Decisions of the Secretary of State for the Home Department not to bring sections 108 to 117 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988 into force and to introduce a non-statutory tariff scheme for criminal injury compensation were unlawful. The Secretary of state was not, however, under any legally enforceable duty to bring the sections into force at any particular time.

The House of Lords by a majority (Lord Keith and Lord Mustill dissenting) dismissed an appeal by the secretary of state and unanimously dismissed a cross-appeal by the applicants, the Fire Brigades Union and 10 other bodies, from the majority decision of the Court of Appeal (Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls and Lord Justice Morritt, Lord Justice Hobhouse dissenting) (*The Times* November 10, 1994; [1995] 2 WLR 1) which had allowed in part the applicants' appeal from the Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Staughton and Mr Justice Buckley) (*The Times* May 30, 1994; [1994] PIQR P320). The Divisional Court had dismissed the applicants' motion for judicial review directed to the secretary of state.

Lord Rodger of Earlsferry, QC, Lord Advocate, Mr Guy Sankey, QC and Mr Stephen Richards for the secretary of state. Mr Patrick Elias, QC and Miss Dinah Rose for the applicants.

LORD BROWNE-WILKINSON said that the applicants were trade unions or other bodies whose members were liable in the course of their working duties to suffer personal injuries as a result of criminal behaviour.

In 1964 a scheme compensating such victims had been announced in both Houses of Parliament. It had come into force on August 1. It had been non-statutory and had been introduced under the prerogative powers, compensation being paid out of moneys voted by Parliament. It had been modified on a number of occasions, most recently in February 1990 and January 1992.

It had provided for a system of ex gratia payments to be assessed on the same basis as damages at common law. Compensation had been assessed on an individual basis and had included provision for pain and suffering and loss of earnings as well as compensation for the dependants of dead victims.

Sections 108 to 117 of and Schedules 6 and 7 to the 1988 Act contained a statutory criminal injuries compensation scheme which in substance gave statutory enactment to the scheme. In particular, the amount of compensation would be calculated on the same basis as common law damages.

Section 171 provided: "... this Act shall come into force on such day as the secretary of state may by order made by statutory instrument appoint and different days may be appointed ... for different provisions..."

No order had been made under section 171(1) bringing the statutory scheme into force. The old non-statutory scheme had continued in operation subject to certain minor amendments made under prerogative powers.

In December 1993 a White Paper had been published entitled: "Compensating victims of violent crime: Changes to the criminal injuries compensation scheme" (Cm 2434). It had given details of a proposed tariff scheme under which awards would be based on a tariff according to the injuries received without any separate or additional payments for loss of earnings or other expenses.

It had drawn attention to the rise in the number of awards and cost of the old scheme and had stated:

"38 ... With the impending demise of the current scheme the provisions in the 1988 Act will not now be implemented. They will accordingly be repealed when a suitable legislative opportunity occurs.

"39 The new scheme, like the present one, will at least initially be non-statutory and payments will continue to be made on an ex gratia basis. Consideration will, however, be given to putting the scheme on a statutory basis once it has had time to settle down and any teething problems have been resolved."

The new tariff scheme had been published on March 9, 1994 and had come into force on April 1. It was common ground that in some cases, particularly in relation to serious injuries involving prolonged loss of earnings, the amount payable under the tariff scheme would be substantially less than the amount one would have received under the old scheme or the statutory scheme.

The applicants sought judicial review of the continuing decision of the secretary of state not to bring sections 108 to 117 of and Schedules 6 and 7 to the 1988 Act into force and his decision to implement the tariff scheme.

It was of central importance that section 171(1) of the Act was itself in force. It was the applicants' case that, although it conferred a discretion as to the date on which the statutory scheme was to be brought into force, it also imposed on him a statutory duty to bring the sections into force at some time.

The words of section 171(1) were consistent only with the secretary of state having some discretion. Circumstances could be foreseen in which it would plainly be undesirable for him to be under any such duty as contended for.

If the applicants were right, there must come a time when the secretary of state came under a duty to bring the statutory provisions into force and the court could grant mandamus requiring him to do so.

It would be most undesirable that the court should intervene in the legislative process by requiring an Act of Parliament to be brought into effect. That would be for the courts to tread dangerously close to the area over which Parliament enjoyed exclusive jurisdiction.

In the absence of clear statutory words imposing a clear statutory duty, the court should hesitate long before holding that such a provision as section 171(1) imposed a legally enforceable duty on the secretary of state.

It did not follow that he had an absolute and unfettered discretion whether or not to bring the sections into effect. So to hold would lead to the conclusion that both Houses of Parliament had passed the Bill through all its stages and the Act had received the Royal Assent merely to confer an enabling power on the executive to decide at will whether or not to make the parliamentary provisions a part of the law. Such a conclusion was constitutionally dangerous and flew in the face of common sense.

In the absence of express provisions to the contrary in the Act, the plain intention of Parliament in conferring the power in section 171(1) was that such power was to be exercised when it was appropriate and unless there was a change of circumstances that would render it inappropriate to do so.

Two things followed:

First, the secretary of state came under a clear duty to keep under consideration from time to time the question whether or not to bring the sections into force. He could not lawfully surrender or release the power so as to purport to exclude its future exercise either by himself or by his successors. It followed that his decision to give effect to the statement in paragraph 38 of the White Paper that "the provisions in the 1988 Act will not now be implemented" had been unlawful.

Second, although the secretary of state was entitled to decide not to bring the sections into force if events subsequently occurred that rendered it undesirable to do so, if the power in section 171(1) was conferred on him with a view to bringing them into force, he could not himself procure events to take place and rely on the occurrence of those events as the ground for not bringing them into force.

In claiming that the introduction of the new tariff scheme rendered it undesirable now to bring the statutory scheme into force he was, in effect, claiming that the purpose of the statutory scheme had been frustrated by his own act in choosing to introduce a scheme inconsistent with the statutory scheme approved by Parliament.

The tariff scheme, if validly introduced under the Royal Prerogative, was both inconsistent with the statutory scheme and intended to be permanent. By introducing it, the secretary of state debarred himself from exercising the statutory power for the purposes and on the basis that Parliament intended. His decision to introduce it at a time when the statutory provisions and his power under section 171(1) were on the statute book was unlawful and an abuse of the prerogative power.

Lord Lloyd and Lord Nicholls delivered speeches agreeing with Lord Browne-Wilkinson in dismissing the appeal and the cross-appeal.

LORD KEITH, for allowing the appeal, said that the terms of section 171(1) were not apt to create any duty in the secretary of state owed to members of the public. Further, any decision by the secretary of state as to whether sections 108 to 117 should be brought into effect at any particular time was a decision of a political and administrative character quite unsuitable to be the subject of review by a court of law.

That meant that any interference by a court of law would be a most improper intrusion into a field that lay peculiarly within the province of Parliament. The secretary of state was answerable to Parliament for any failure in his responsibilities, and that was the only proper place for any possible failure to be called in question.

Given the secretary of state was under no duty owed to members of the public to bring the statutory scheme into force, it could not be a breach of duty to them to announce that he did not intend to do so.

While no doubt many members of the public might have expected to have hoped that sections 108 to 117 would be brought into force, they had no right to have them brought into force.

His Lordship accepted that the secretary of state was under a duty to keep under review from time to time whether to bring sections 108 to 117 into force, but it was a duty owed to Parliament and not to the public at large.

It did not seem to his Lordship that operating the proposed new tariff scheme would rule out any reasonable possibility of the statutory scheme ever being introduced. The decision not to introduce it at the present time was a political one and it was entirely predictable that political views might change. If a political decision were made to bring in the statutory scheme there was no reason to suppose that the political will would not be found.

LORD MUSTILL, also for allowing the appeal, said that, as judges constantly remarked, it was not they who were appointed to administer the country. Absent a written constitution, much sensitivity was required of the parliamentarian, administrator and judge if the delicate balance of the unwritten rules evolved successfully in recent years was not to be disturbed and all the recent advances undone.

Some of the argument addressed would have the court push to the very boundaries of the distinction between court and Parliament established in, and recognised ever since the Bill of Rights 1688. Three hundred years had passed since then and the political and social landscape had changed beyond recognition but the boundaries remained.

Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor; Robin Thompson & Partners.

DNA profile wrongly admitted at later trial

Regina v Nathaniel

Before Lord Taylor of Gosforth, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Owen and Sir Lawrence Verney, Recorder of London

[Reasons March 16]

Evidence relating to a suspect's DNA profiles provided for a rape investigation in 1991, of which he was acquitted in 1992, was wrongly admitted at his later trial for a rape in 1989, in breach of statutory duty relating to their destruction and of undertakings given to him about their use. His conviction for the 1989 rape was quashed on appeal.

The Court of Appeal so held in giving reserved reasons for having allowed on March 9 the appeal of Lonsdale Nathaniel, aged 29, from conviction at Snaresbrook Crown Court (Judge Owen Stable and a jury) of robbery and rape for which he was received an 11-year prison sentence.

Mr David Cocks, QC and Mr Alisdair Smith, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr Marks Moore for the Crown.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, giving the reasons of the court, said that it was undisputed at the trial that the victim in 1989 was raped and robbed by the same man.

On the sole issue of whether the accused was identified as the assailant of the victim, the prosecution relied on, inter alia, the matching DNA profiles.

The DNA match, if the jury accepted it, was the most specific evidence. Without it there would clearly have been a successful submission of no case to answer.

The judge had rejected a submission that the DNA evidence ought to be excluded on the basis that he had a discretion under section 78 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 to "refuse to allow the evidence ... to be given if it appears ... having regard to all the circumstances, including the circumstances in which the evidence was obtained, that the admission of the evidence would have such an adverse effect on the fairness of the proceedings that the court ought not to admit it."

The principal ground of appeal was that the judge should have acceded to the submission.

In 1991 the appellant was arrested after two Danish girls had complained of rape. He provided a blood sample for DNA profiles to be prepared. They were completed in February 1992.

Because there was a backlog on the Metropolitan Police DNA database, the appellant's DNA profile was not entered into it when it had become available in February 1992.

Although section 64 of the 1984 Act did not in terms apply to DNA profiles, the prosecution had conceded, rightly, that it was to be construed as applying not just to blood samples but also to DNA profiles taken from them.

The appellant's DNA profile was entered on the computer in January 1993 on the same day as the operator sought up-to-date information on the charges relating to the two Danish girls. Before she received that information, the computer had shown a match between the appellant's profile taken for the purposes of that case and the sample taken from the victim of the 1989 rape.

The next step was that the operator received information that the appellant had been acquitted of raping the Danish girls. At that time, the samples, the profiles and the information should all have been destroyed.

However, the operator informed the police of the apparent match and the appellant was arrested on March 2, 1993 for the 1989 offences.

He was frankly informed, in the presence of his solicitor, that the DNA profile had been retained. On legal advice he refused any further intimate sample but a hair sample was taken.

Although there had been a breach of section 64, the link between the appellant's DNA profile and that of the 1989 crime sample having been conveyed to the police, even if wrongly, they were in duty bound to act upon that information. The investigation of very serious crime was not a game.

Given that the arrest of the appellant was lawful, the taking of the hair sample was lawful and the judge was entitled to hold that its admission did not contravene section 78 of the 1984 Act. However, exclusion of evidence of the DNA profiles from the 1991 blood sample remained a matter of discretion under section 78.

Not only was there a breach of section 64, but the appellant had in effect been misled in consenting to give the blood sample by statements and promises which were not honoured.

Before he consented to giving the sample, he was told that it was required for the purposes of the case involving the Danish girls. He was also told, pursuant to the *Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (s.64) Codes of Practice* (revised edition), that the sample would be destroyed if he was prosecuted in relation to those girls and cleared.

Finally, he was told that, if he refused without good cause to give a sample, the jury in any proceedings against him for the rapes of the two girls could draw inferences from his refusal.

With that sanction and in reliance on the promises which confined the use of the sample to the specific case then being investigated the appellant agreed to provide blood.

To allow that blood sample to be used in evidence at a trial four years after the alleged offences when the sample had been retained in breach of statutory duty and in breach of the undertakings to the appellant must, in their Lordships' view, have had an adverse effect on the fairness of the trial.

It should not have been admitted. Without it, the evidence in the case was insufficient to render the verdicts safe and satisfactory.

The admission of the DNA profile from the blood sample must have played a predominant part in the jury's deliberations.

Their Lordships had concluded that the wrongful admission of that evidence was fatal to the convictions which were therefore quashed.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Headquarters.

No power to set aside valid adoption order

In re B (Adoption order: Jurisdiction to set aside)

Before Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Simon Brown and Lord Justice Swinton Thomas

[Judgment March 17]

The court had no inherent power to set aside an adoption order, which had been made regularly and in accordance with the proper procedure, on the ground that at the time the order was made there had been a fundamental misapprehension that a Jewish baby was being placed with Jewish adopters.

The Court of Appeal so held when dismissing B's appeal from the refusal by Sir Stephen Brown, President of the Family Division, of his application to set aside an adoption order made in respect of him in 1959.

The applicant was adopted shortly after his birth by a Jewish couple who believed his natural father to be Jewish. In fact the applicant's father was a Muslim Arab. His natural mother, who was English, subsequently stated that she had been led to believe her son would be placed with middle class parents, and would have had serious reservations if she had known that the prospective adopters were a working class Jewish couple. In 1968 the adoptive parents learned that B was not Jewish and continued to care for him as their son. As an adult he had discovered his parentage. He now wished to work in the Middle East but it was extremely difficult for him to do so or even to visit Israel or any Arab country.

Mr Allan Levy, QC and Mr Timothy Compton for B; Mr James Holman, QC, as amicus curiae.

LORD JUSTICE SWINTON THOMAS said that B's application faced insuperable hurdles. An adoption order had a quite different standing from almost every other order made by a court: it provided the status of the adopted child and of the adoptive parents; its effect was to extinguish any parental responsibility of the natural parents.

Apart from section 52 (revocation on legitimation) and section 53 (annulment of overseas adoptions) of the Adoption Act 1976 there were no other statutory provisions for revoking an adoption order which had been validly made. Accordingly, Mr Levy had been compelled to submit that the court had inherent power to set aside an adoption order where, as he put it, the order had been made under a fundamental mistake of fact.

His Lordship referred to cases where orders had been set aside for what was known as procedural irregularity: where there had been a failure to effect proper service of the proceedings on a natural parent or ignorance of the parent of the existence of the proceedings; and in each case the application to set aside had been made reasonably expeditiously. It was fundamental to the making of an adoption order that the natural parent should be informed of the application so that she could give or withhold consent. If she had no knowledge at all of the application then, obviously, a fundamental injustice was perpetrated.

His Lordship preferred to regard those cases not as cases where the order had been set aside for procedural irregularity, although that had certainly occurred, but as cases where natural justice had been denied because the natural parent who might wish to challenge the adoption had never been told it was going to happen.

Mr Levy had submitted that the order should be set aside because all the parties were led astray, mistakes were made going to the root of the application and each party would have done the opposite if they had known the true position. There was, he submitted, a fundamental mistake which went to the root of the order: namely the parties' belief that a Jewish baby was being matched with Jewish parents whereas that was not the true position.

His Lordship referred to *In re M (Minors) (Adoption)* ([1991] 1 FLR 458), which he distinguished, and to *J and J v C's Tutor* (1948 SC 636) which might have greater applicability to the present case.

No case had been brought to the court's attention where it had been held that the court had inherent power to set aside an adoption order by reason of a misapprehension or mistake.

To allow considerations such as those put forward here to invalidate an otherwise properly made order would undermine the whole basis on which adoption orders were made, namely that they were final and for life as regarded adopters, natural parents and child.

Mr Holman was right when he submitted that it would gravely damage the lifelong commitment of adopters to their adoptive children if there was a possibility of the child, or the parents, subsequently challenging the validity of the order. There was no inherent power in the courts in circumstances such as the present to set aside an adoption order.

The Master of the Rolls and Lord Justice Simon Brown delivered concurring judgments.

Solicitors: White & Sherwin: Official Solicitor.

Hopeless appeals deplored

In re N (Minors) (Residence)

Hopeless family appeals which had been brought without leave on public funds were all too frequent examples of public money spent to no good effect and which had the adverse effect upon children who were the subject of proceedings by raising the temperature and exacerbating unhappy feelings between parents.

They were appeals brought in the height of emotion and understandable upset by a parent which required a particular degree of detachment and common sense from the legal advisers who should not be carried away by the enthusiasm, frustration and hurt of their lay client.

Lord Justice Butler-Sloss, sitting in the Court of Appeal with Lord Justice Simon Brown and Lord Justice Ward, so said on February 16 when dismissing the appeal of the mother from the decision of Mr Justice Ewbank on August 12, 1994, to place the children of the family with the father.

The Times Law Report will be published again tomorrow

Luxembourg

European Law Report

Suing in libel throughout Convention states

Shevill and Others v Presse Alliance SA

(Case C-68/93)

Before G. C. Rodriguez Iglesias, President and Judges F. A. Schockweiler, P. J. G. Kapteyn, C. Gulmann, G. F. Mancini, C. N. Kakouris, J. C. Moitinho de Almeida, J. L. Murray, D. A. O. Edward, J.-P. Puissochet and G. Hirsch

Advocate Generals M. Darmon and P. Léger

(Opinions July 14, 1994 and January 10)

[Judgment March 7]

The victim of a libel in a newspaper distributed in states which were parties to the Convention on Jurisdiction and the Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters signed at Brussels in 1968 could sue the publisher either in the contracting state where the publisher was established, or in any other contracting state where the publication was distributed and the victim claimed to have suffered injury to his reputation.

The courts of the state where the publisher was established had jurisdiction to award damages for all the harm caused by the defamation, but the courts of other states could only rule in respect of the harm caused in that state.

The substantive and evidential criteria to be applied by the national court in deciding whether and to what extent harm had occurred were governed not by the Convention but by the national conflict of laws rules, provided that the effectiveness of the Convention was not impaired.

The Court of Justice of the European Communities so held on a reference by the House of Lords for a preliminary ruling, under the Protocol of June 3, 1971 on the interpretation by the Court of Justice of the Brussels Convention, on seven questions relating to article 5(3) of the Convention, set out in Schedule 1 to the Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments Act 1982 and (OJ 1978 L304, p36).

In making the reference, the House of Lords had stayed the proceedings before it on an appeal by the defendant from a decision of the Court of Appeal (*The Times* March 12, 1991; [1992] 2 WLR 1).

The defendant, a company incorporated in France, was the publisher of the newspaper *France Soir*, in which on September 23, 1989 there appeared an article about an operation carried out by drug squad officers of the Paris police at a bureau de change.

The plaintiffs, a United Kingdom national residing in Yorkshire and certain companies involved in the business of bureaux de change, alleged that the article was defamatory in that it suggested that they were part of a drug-trafficking network for which they had laundered money. They issued in England a writ for damages for libel.

The defendant disputed the jurisdiction of the English court, arguing that under article 2 of the Brussels Convention the French courts alone had jurisdiction and that the English courts did not have jurisdiction under article 5(3) as no "harmful event" within that article had occurred in England.

The case initially came before the sixth chamber of the Court of Justice, to which an advocate general's opinion was delivered. In view of the importance of the questions raised, the case was then referred to the full court, to which a further opinion was delivered.

Article 2 of the Convention provides: "Subject to the provisions of this Convention, persons domiciled in a contracting state shall ... be sued in the courts of that state..."

Article 5 provides: "A person domiciled in a contracting state may, in another contracting state, be sued ... (3) in matters relating to tort, delict or quasi-delict, in the courts for the place where the harmful event occurred..."

In its judgment the Court of Justice held as follows:

Four of the questions referred sought guidance on the interpretation of "the place where the harmful event occurred" in article 5(3), with a view to establishing which courts had jurisdiction to hear an action for damages for harm caused to the victim following distribution of a defamatory newspaper article in several contracting states.

The rule of special jurisdiction in article 5(3), the choice of which was a matter for the plaintiff, was based on the existence of a particularly close connecting factor between the dispute and courts other than those of the state of the defendant's domicile, which justified the attribution of jurisdiction to those courts for reasons relating to the sound administration of justice and the efficacious conduct of proceedings: see (Case 21/76) *Handelskwekerij GJ Bier BV v Mines de Potasse d'Alsace SA* ([1978] QB 708; [1976] ECR 1735).

In that case (at paragraphs 24 and 25) the court held that, where the place of the happening of the event which might give rise to liability in tort, delict or quasi-delict and the place where that event resulted in damage were not identical, the expression "place where the harmful event occurred" was to be understood as being intended to cover both places, so that the defendant could be sued, at the option of the plaintiff, in the courts of either place.

The court stated (at paragraphs 15 and 17) that either place could constitute a significant connecting factor from the point of view of jurisdiction, since each of them could, depending on the circumstances, be particularly helpful in relation to the evidence and the conduct of the proceedings, and (at paragraph 20) that to decide in favour only of the place of the event giving rise to the damage would, in an appreciable number of cases, cause confusion between the heads of jurisdiction laid down by articles 2 and 5(3) of the Convention, so that the latter provision would, to that extent, lose its effectiveness.

Those observations, made in relation to physical or pecuniary loss or damage, must equally apply in the case of loss or damage other than physical or pecuniary, in particular injury to the reputation of a natural or legal person due to a defamatory publication.

In the case of a libel by a newspaper article distributed in several contracting states, the place of the event giving rise to the damage could only be the place where the publisher of the newspaper in question was established, since that was the place where the harmful event originated and from which the libel was issued and put into circulation.

The court of that place must therefore have jurisdiction to hear the action for damages for all the harm caused by the unlawful act. However, that forum would generally coincide with the head of jurisdiction set out in the first paragraph of article 2 of the Convention, and, in accordance with *Mines de Potasse d'Alsace*, the plaintiff must also have the option to bring proceedings in the place where the damage occurred, since otherwise article 5(3) would be rendered meaningless.

The place where the damage occurred was the place where the event giving rise to the damage, entailing tortious, delictual or quasi-delictual liability, produced its harmful effects on the victim.

In the case of an international libel through the press, the injury caused by a defamatory publication to the honour, reputation and good name of a natural or legal person occurred in the places where the publication was distributed, when the victim was known in those places. It followed that the courts of each contracting state in which the defamatory publication was distributed and in which the victim claimed to have suffered injury to his reputation had jurisdiction to rule on the injury caused in that state to the victim's reputation.

In accordance with the requirement of the sound administration of justice, the basis of the rule of special jurisdiction in article 5(3), the courts of each contracting state in which the defamatory publication was distributed and in which the victim claimed to have suffered injury to his reputation were territorially the best placed to assess the libel committed in that state and to determine the extent of the corresponding damage.

Although there were disadvantages to having different courts ruling on various aspects of the same dispute, the plaintiff always had the option of bringing his entire claim before the courts either of the defendant's domicile or of the place where the publisher of the defamatory publication was established.

The other three questions referred essentially asked whether, in determining whether it had jurisdiction as court of the place where the damage occurred pursuant to article 5(3), the national court was required to follow specific rules different from those laid down by its national law in relation to the criteria for assessing whether the event in question was harmful and in relation to the evidence required of the existence and extent of the harm alleged by the victim of the defamation.

The object of the Convention was not to unify the rules of substantive law and of procedure of the different contracting states, but to determine which court had jurisdiction in disputes relating to civil and commercial matters in relations between the contracting states and to facilitate the enforcement of judgments.

In the area of non-contractual liability, the sole object of the Convention was to determine which court or courts had jurisdiction to hear the dispute by reference to the place or places where an event considered harmful occurred, and it did not specify the circumstances in which the event giving rise to the harm might be considered to be harmful to the victim, or the evidence which the plaintiff must adduce before the court seised to enable it to rule on the merits of the case.

Those questions had to be settled solely by the national court seised, applying the substantive law determined by its national conflict of laws rules, provided that the effectiveness of the Convention was not thereby impaired.

The fact that under English law damage was presumed in libel actions, so that the plaintiff did not have to adduce evidence of the existence and extent of that damage, did not, therefore, preclude the application of article 5(3) in determining which courts had territorial jurisdiction to hear the action for damages for harm caused by an international libel through the press.

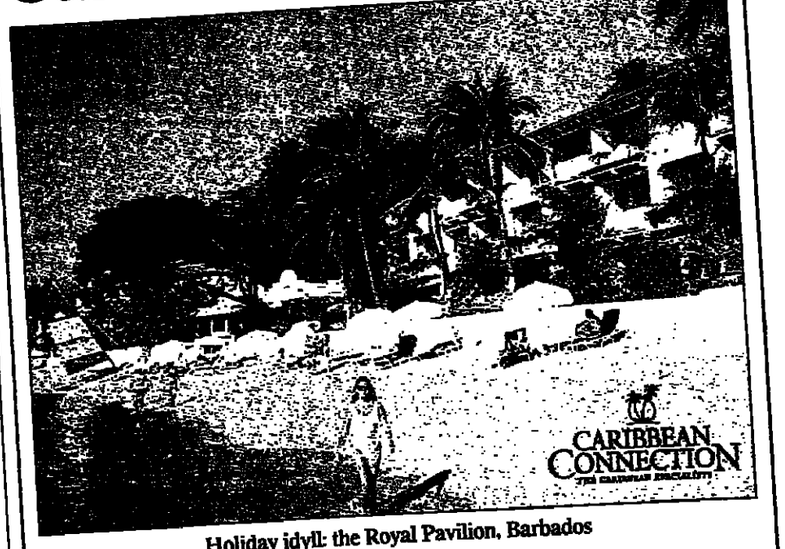
On those grounds the Court of Justice ruled:

1 On a proper construction of the expression "place where the harmful event occurred" in article 5(3) of the Brussels Convention, the victim of a libel by a newspaper article distributed in several contracting states could bring an action for damages against the publisher either before the courts of the contracting state of the place where the publisher of the defamatory publication was established, which had jurisdiction to award damages for all the harm caused by the defamation, or before the courts of each contracting state in which the publication was distributed and where the victim claimed to have suffered injury to his reputation, which had jurisdiction to rule solely in respect of the harm caused in the state of the court seised.

2 The criteria for assessing whether the event in question was harmful, and the evidence required of the existence and extent of the harm alleged by the victim of the defamation, were not governed by the Convention but by the substantive law determined by the national conflict of laws rules of the court seised, provided that the effectiveness of the Convention was not thereby impaired.

THE TIMES

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MYCIL
Stops athlete's foot in its tracks.
MYCIL CONTAINS TOLNAFTATE. ALWAYS READ THE LABEL.

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12,451 J Bigger 4:05:42; I Davison 4:05:43; F Martello 4:05:45; D Summers 4:05:45; J Blakemore 4:05:46; C Pearman 4:05:47; R Cuthbertson 4:05:47; P Field 4:05:47; C Boldi 4:05:47; M Smith 4:05:48; S Hutchings 4:05:48; K Terrell 4:05:49; D Kidd 4:05:49; G Hoskins 4:05:49; P Measures 4:05:49; K Franklin 4:05:50; P Monkman 4:05:50; G Partridge 4:05:51; N Khan 4:05:51; M Galan-Diaz 4:05:51; D Newman 4:05:51; F Pearcy 4:05:51; L Sharman 4:05:52; J Lelliott 4:05:52; J Crabtree 4:05:52; J Breuille 4:05:52; A Lowe 4:05:52; M Davenport 4:05:53; J Dickinson 4:05:53; T Yapp 4:05:53; G Burton 4:05:53; C Barratt 4:05:54; A Vidal 4:05:54; C Young 4:05:54; D Brealey 4:05:54; T Dingerdissen 4:05:54; B Porter 4:05:56; S McStravick 4:05:56; J Southgate 4:05:56; R Westwood 4:05:57; C Allmendinger 4:05:57; J Horgan 4:05:57; A Potts 4:05:57; W Matthews 4:05:58; R Armitage 4:05:58; R Stafford 4:05:58; T Robertson 4:05:58; L Brook 4:05:58; C Henn 4:05:58; J Perkins 4:05:59

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12,551 M Foulds 4:06:20; M Gregory 4:06:20; P Schmuecker 4:06:20; M Endrass 4:06:21; T Tomblin 4:06:21; S Bartlett 4:06:22; J Kennedy 4:06:22; D Maher 4:06:23; M Greaves 4:06:24; D Jones 4:06:25; K Fletcher 4:06:25; R Williams 4:06:25; D Pinnock 4:06:25; A Smith 4:06:27; P Bleckmann 4:06:28; M Spradbury 4:06:28; G Peatfield 4:06:29; M Crompton 4:06:29; C Merry 4:06:29; P Crew 4:06:30; A Pearse 4:06:30; P Delcroix 4:06:30; R Mac Innes 4:06:30; N Ferrante 4:06:30; M Brown 4:06:31; R Brown 4:06:31; D Wilson 4:06:32; C Kettle 4:06:32; J Poulter 4:06:32; D White 4:06:32; A Livesey 4:06:32; S Pilat 4:06:32; T Wright 4:06:32; N Billing 4:06:33; D Laughton 4:06:33; R Davies 4:06:33; S Rugman 4:06:33

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WORD-WATCHING

McCall welcomes former world champion back to heavyweight scene

Tyson sets sights on making early return to the ring

FROM SRIKUMAR SEN, BOXING CORRESPONDENT, IN LAS VEGAS

MIKE TYSON appears to be throwing off any institutionalising effects of prison, where he spent three years for rape, faster than was thought possible. He not only plans to be back in the ring by June or July, but is beginning to live in the style he was accustomed to before going to prison. Tyson, who is staying in Don King's house here, went on his first spending spree last Friday, just six days after being released from prison.

If those around Tyson refuse to say anything about how the former champion is getting on for fear of speaking out of turn (Tyson himself has spoken in public for only 76 seconds in Cleveland), Oliver McCall, who is defending his World Boxing Council title against Larry Holmes here on Saturday, has no such qualms.

He told how he had accompanied Tyson on a shopping expedition in the Caesars Palace indoor arcade and talked boxing all the while. Tyson bought several designer suits, ties and belts. "We shopped at Versace," McCall said. "He bought a lot of clothes and when he started going to other shops, I left."

McCall's manager, Jimmy Adams, added: "He bought several suits. Don King paid. I don't know how much he spent, but it must have been well into five figures."

McCall, who used to be Tyson's sparring partner, agreed that Tyson appeared to have shrunk in size, but said he would have no trouble getting back in the ring by July. "He looked a little smaller, but he still has that physique of a heavyweight. He looked 215lb.

"Personally, he looked calmer, focused and humble. He has been in prison for three years and you can't help but be humble for a while. He seemed very mentally stable.

"He said he wants to fight June or July. I don't think he'll have any trouble fighting. He is already in training."

"We talked about boxing, about different guys and we talked about Riddick Bowe and how bad he looked in his last performance [against Herbie Hide]. We both came up with the same conclusion. He's a big, tall, big, fat blubby bum now. Of all the guys in the heavyweight division, even including Lennox Lewis, Riddick Bowe looks the worst.

"He's declined, as far as his skills go, more than anyone in the top ten of the division. Looking at Riddick Bowe, we thought George Foreman must be licking his chops."



McCall: sluggish

McCall said he had been sacked as a sparring partner by Tyson when training in Las Vegas before the bout with James "Buster" Douglas in Japan because he refused to spar more than four rounds at a session after having his weekly wages cut from $2,500 (about £1,560) to $1,500.

"I told him then that if he took Buster Douglas lightly, he would be in for a surprise. When I saw him the other day, I reminded him about it. He shut up and sized me up. I told him: 'I am the same guy who was whipping you up in the gym. No need to size me up. You got plenty of time before we meet. Just get ready'.

"He said, 'Make sure you beat Larry Holmes, because you've got plenty of money to make'."

McCall has certainly kept himself in good shape since beating Lewis in two rounds last September. He looked slightly sluggish sparring eight rounds on Tuesday, but admitted that was the case. He said there was no danger of him underestimating Holmes, who is 45.

"I've trained for the Holmes of 1978. If he don't step in there like he was in 1978, I'm going to whup him."

McCall said he was so confident that he would be prepared to go back in time and fight any of the champions of Holmes's era. "That's why I love Mike Tyson," McCall said, "because he can't help but motivate me to keep winning. That's the spark Tyson brings to the division."



Tyson hopes to be in prime condition by the time he steps back into the ring

Wisden backs Test format for new world championship



Alan Lee offers his support for a tournament to establish the strongest side in five-day cricket

Early next year, cricket stages its sixth World Cup, but, as usual, it will be a phoney and unfulfilling measure of nations because the games are of one day's duration rather than five. It is time for a more significant event and the 1995 *Wisden Cricketers' Almanack*, published today, proposes the immediate institution of a world championship of Test cricket.

Within a volume that is also intensely critical of England's players and management, attacks the shortsightedness of the counties and suggests the Ashes should no longer be held at Lord's irrespective of who wins them, this is perhaps not the most instantly arresting item, but it could be the most momentous.

Test cricket is undergoing a renaissance. In England, it has never been less than healthy, but overseas, especially in India and Australia, the obsession with limited-overs events is waning, restoring public support to the five-day game. Within an ever-expanding international programme, however, rationalisation is urgently needed.

Wisden may have the solution. In his editor's notes, Matthew Engel points out that a Test championship "would cost next to nothing, could bring in major sponsorship and would give shape to the present mish-mash of world cricket". Explaining his theory, he goes on: "All the Test countries need do is undertake to play at least one Test home and away against all the others in a four-year cycle, which they are edging toward anyway."

"In an Ashes series, the world championship would merely be a sub-plot and the whole series could count in the final table: two points, say, for the winner; one each if it were drawn. For countries which just played a single Test against each other, then the one game would count for everything. It would thus add particular pith to the matches that now seem least important."

Engel's idea is simple yet original. It could raise the profile of cricket at a stroke, just as Engel, remarkably, has raised the standards and broadened the scope of the great book. This is his third edition as editor and it has much to commend it.

There is a timely piece by Derek Pringle on how cricketers have never been above bending the laws: a tribute to the late Peter May by Doug Insole and valedictory articles on Allan Border and Kapil Dev. In addition to the traditional cricketers of the year — Devon Malcolm, Tim Munton, Steve Rhodes, Kepler Wessels and, inevitably, Brian Lara — there is also a novel alternative five, honouring some of the backroom stalwarts of the county game.

Most attention, however, will rightly be focused on the editor's notes, in which Engel suggests that Raymond Illingworth must take overall charge of the Test team. As the notes were written in January, six weeks before this came about, he demonstrates considerable prescience. He is not, however, totally enamoured of Illingworth's performance as chairman of selectors and writes: "One began to feel that the right adjective was the one that never attached to him in his playing days: amateurish."

Wisden rejects the notion of a two-division county championship but concedes: "The counties have got to start doing some hard thinking, especially about the amount of one-day cricket they play." The return to group games in the Benson and Hedges Cup is condemned. "In the face of all the evidence of the damage this form of the game is doing to English players' technique, this is grotesque and disgraceful." Hear, hear.

☐ *Wisden Cricketers' Almanack 1995* (John Wisden, £23.50 hardback and soft covers).

Officials keep special weight watch on Schumacher

FROM OLIVER HOLT IN BUENOS AIRES

MICHAEL SCHUMACHER was warned last night that the discrepancies discovered in his weight before and after the Brazilian Grand Prix last month would lead to him being placed under special scrutiny for the rest of the season. Weight watchers everywhere will be hoping their new champion confounds the doubters.

The German tipped the scales at 77kg (12st 1lb) when each driver was weighed officially before the São Paulo race, but, in an unscheduled check after he had taken the chequered flag, his weight had plummeted by more than 5kg (11lb). Because the required minimum weight of car and driver were expected to be taken from his first measurement, that would have given him the potential to run with a lighter car and so gain an advantage.

Schumacher refused to comment on the controversy here yesterday as the drivers prepared to take part in the first Argentinian Grand Prix for 14 years and the official line from the team was that the car had conformed to the rules after the Brazilian race. But the clear message coming from official sources was that the authorities were deeply disillusioned with the world champion's behaviour.

It was made clear that Schumacher would be checked rigorously throughout the weekend and that he would be weighed after the race on Sunday here. It was felt there was no need to censure him after Brazil because he had caused himself enough embarrassment.

The International Motor Sport Federation (FIA) said the weight of other drivers would also be checked at random after the race on high-tech computerised scales brought in to crack down on attempts to bend the rules. Until now, the official weight given at the start of the season has stood for the remainder of the year, but ruses such as drinking several litres of water before being weighed have forced the change.

David Coulthard was also counting the cost of shedding some pounds yesterday. He was concerned about the prize-money, thought to be £100,000, he lost when he was disqualified from second place in Brazil because of apparent irregularities in the Elf fuel in his Williams-Renault car.

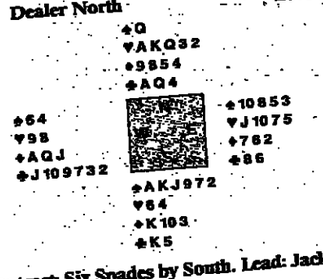
Coulthard said he was confident the appeal against the ruling, which also deprived Schumacher of first place, would be successful when it is heard in Paris next week.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

The refresher today is about management of entries. To use entries properly, you have to anticipate the sequence of play.

Dealer North — Love all



Contract: Six Spades by South. Lead: Jack of clubs

Six spades is a good contract. How do you set about it on a club lead? The first thing is to count your tricks. In this case, you have a probable six tricks in spades, three in hearts and three in clubs, making 12 in all. It seems simple, but what happens in practice, I am afraid, is that South wins the first trick with the king of clubs, and then scratches his head. Too late, the contract can no longer be made.

Correct, of course, is to win the first club in dummy. This looks unnatural, because it blocks the suit; but sometimes you have to incur a blockage to make the rest of the hand flow freely. Here, you continue by cashing the the queen of spades; then, you come to hand with the king of clubs, draw trumps and claim 12 tricks. Straigtforward enough, but you had to make a plan before playing from dummy at trick one.

Here is a slightly more difficult communication problem. As West, you play 6NT and North leads the nine of hearts.



It is all too easy to play low on the heart, but now the defence will be able to deny West entry to his hand — South will not put in the king of hearts if he has it. Correct is to rise with the ace of hearts and unblock the ace and king of spades. Then you continue with the jack of hearts and play the queen on it — now you have forced an entry to your hand.

WORD WATCHING

By Philip Howard

HEORTOLOGY
a. Gardening
b. Black-or-white antithesis
c. The study of feasts

IXODID
a. A tick
b. An Aztec temple
c. An iodine derivative

LOPOLITH
a. A gall-stone
b. The rock-creeper
c. A stone basin

MIZRACH
a. Eastward-facing
b. A love token
c. A rock coney

Answers: page 42

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Speelman top

Grandmaster Jon Speelman, from London, has ousted Nigel Short as Britain's top-ranked player in the Intel world chess rankings that were issued yesterday.

Speelman, the world No 20, has achieved a new rating of 2,627, ahead of Short 2,617, John Nunn 2,606 and Michael Adams 2,601.

The world's highest ranked player, according to Intel, is Garry Kasparov with 2,789, ahead of Anatoly Karpov 2,767, Vassily Ivanchuk 2,764, Viswanathan Anand 2,758 and Gata Kamsky 2,755. Bobby Fischer, the former world champion is ranked 54th on 2,594.

London tournament

The following game was played in the St Peter's de Beauvoir international tournament, now in progress in London.

Neil McDonald, the winner, has been the dominant force so far in the numerous international tournaments in the London series organised by the energetic Chris Dunworth.

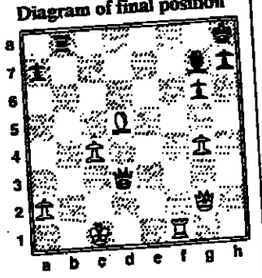
White: Tyrtania
Black: McDonald
St Peters, 1995

Slav Defence

1	d4	d5
2	c4	c6
3	Nf3	Nf6
4	cxd5	cxd5
5	Nc3	Nc6
6	Bf4	Ne4
7	e3	Nxc3
8	bxc3	g6
9	Ne5	Bg7
10	Nxc6	bxc6
11	Qa4	Bd7
12	Ba6	Qb6
13	0-0	Bf5
14	Rfc1	0-0
15	g4	Be4
16	f3	e5
17	bxe4	exd4
18	Rab1	Qc7
19	Bb7	bxa3
20	e5	Qd7
21	h3	Rad8
22	Bxc6	Qe7
23	Qc2	f6
24	c4	fxe5
25	Bxd5+	Kh8
26	Qe4	Qh4
27	dxe5	Qxh3
28	Rc2	Rf2
29	Rd2	exd2+
30	Kd2	Qh2+
31	Qg2	Rf8+
32	Ke2	Qxe5+
33	Qe4	Qg3
34	Rf1	Qh2+
35	Qg2	Qe5+
36	Kd2	Qc3+
37	Ke2	Re8+
38	Kd1	Qd3+
39	Kc1	Rb8

White resigns

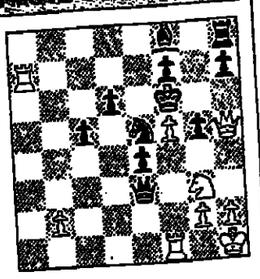
Diagram of final position



WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is a variation from the game Burgess - Whitcum, Torbay 1989. The black king has been driven into the open. How does White now land the decisive blow?



Solution: page 42

SPORTS LETTERS

Cantona provocation ignored

From Mr John Byrne

Sir, We finally have a judgment on Eric Cantona (report, April 1). At best it is a compromise, at worst an appeasement to the lynch-mob mentality — or should that be the other way round?

Do we learn from this that it is best to avoid all kinds of confrontation and that football and many other kinds of competition may be a form of embryonic violence?

Impartial justice would appear almost impossible to receive or administer. It seems that the initial sentence of two weeks' imprisonment was imposed by the magistrate because the accused was a highly paid and well-known person and because this was an emotive issue.

Surely, for this very reason, the magistrate and so-called dispenser of justice should not have fallen into this trap based on the misplaced self-righteous public outrage.

Had this case involved an unknown person, they would almost certainly — particularly as there was no previous criminal record — have been admonished only with a caution and bound over to keep the peace. The element of provocation involved seems to have been ignored.

Cantona is not, fortunately, employed as a role model. He is a highly paid footballer, like many others, and maybe he plays football because he is good at what he does and very possibly also because of the salary.

He is not a role model and should not have been cast and eventually misjudged, sentenced and rejudged as such. When will we get justice based on the law and not on the appeasement of doubtful self-appointed judges?

Yours sincerely,
JOHN BYRNE,
34 Castlebar Park, W5.

The English way

From Mr D. J. Bartholomew

Sir, I am weary of hearing that every foreign football team displays superior technical ability to England, as in David Miller's article on Uruguay (March 30).

Nobody in the world has better ball-control than John Barnes or Peter Beardsley. Their problem is that they rarely do it for England.

There is no skill gap. English players have to use their skills at the hectic pace of our leagues. I wonder how many foreign players would display marvellous ball-control if playing at the same speed. Very few I would guess, apart from truly great players such as Klinsmann, Cantona and Gullit.

If ever England play to English strengths, wouldn't they sweep all before them? After all, Ireland play the English way and, with limited talent, have achieved more than England in recent years.

Let England give it a try. They have tried matching the foreigners at their own game for 25 years and where has it got them? Twentieth in the world rankings.

Yours faithfully,
D. J. BARTHOLOMEW,
5 Princess Gardens,
Hilperton Marsh,
Trowbridge,
Wiltshire.

Without notice

From Mr Owen E. Bennion

Sir, According to Rob Hughes's Weekend View (early editions, April 1), Sir Stanley Matthews is a Lancastrian. Was this an April Fool's joke or has Stoke-on-Trent moved without anyone noticing?

Yours faithfully,
OWEN E. BENNION,
28 Castle Bank, Stafford.

Seeing red over England shirt

From Mr Ben Thompson

Sir, On viewing the new England rugby union World Cup strip (report, March 28) I could not believe the decision of the Rugby Football Union (RFU) to allow greed once again to get in the way of tradition and good taste.

The strip, as was the case in 1991, is not only an insult to the past but a totally incomprehensible creation. Is someone getting England confused with Britain? The colours of the St George Cross are red and white, so why the introduction of navy blue in the national strip? The concept behind the strips of the home unions is that they represent the pride and passion of their respective nations.

I cannot imagine a country like New Zealand being so flexible if, in a similar predicament, it came to turning its back on years of tradition for the sake of donning what is no more than a multi-coloured leisure shirt.

It appears that the English authorities have been too keen to relax their traditional ties to trigger the cash registers. We are in danger of experiencing from the RFU the same sort of exploitation witnessed in the many association football club shops in this country with their continual change of the team's playing attire.

I hope the responsible parties will soon wake up and the days of the dashing "All Whites" will be restored.

Yours sincerely,
BEN THOMPSON,
5 St Andrew's Mansions,
St Andrew's Road, W14.

One degree over

From Mrs Rosemary Stephens

Sir, Once again we have seen an exhibition of first-class oarsmanship on the Thames (report, April 3), but was it really a race between the universities of Oxford and Cambridge?

Oxford had seven men who had been to at least one overseas university and Cambridge had three. Admittedly, they were all now attached to Oxbridge colleges and were supposedly engaged in research, but one cannot help wondering whether their skills as oarsmen did not carry more weight than their academic ability.

Is it right that university resources should be given to these men when so many excellent candidates fail to obtain a place to read for a first degree?

Yours faithfully,
ROSEMARY STEPHENS,
The Glade House,
Quality Street,
Merstham,
Surrey.

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JOHN MURRAY & FRIENDS FROM COUNTY ANTRIM £230,804
PLUS 4 OTHER WINNERS OF OVER £220,062 EACH
23½ Pts £2,354.65
23 Pts £838.10
22½ Pts £89.30
22 Pts £32.80
21½ Pts £10.60
21 Pts £2.70
20½ Pts £1.90
4 DRAWS
10 HOMES £85.80
5 AWAYS POOL VOID
SCORE DRAW (1-1, 2-2 etc) 3 PTS
NO SCORE DRAW (0-0) OR VOID MATCH 2 PTS
WIN - HOME OR AWAY 1 PT
GET YOUR GRAND NATIONAL ENTRY IN THIS WEEK

Sports Letters may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5211. They must include a daytime telephone number.

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Pride fires Arsenal in defence of their prize

By Rob Hughes, Football Correspondent

FOR Arsenal, any pride this season would have to come after the fall. News that John Jensen damaged an ankle in training 24 hours before the European Cup Winners' Cup semi-final first leg against Sampdoria at Highbury tonight adds physical meaning to the moral maze that has afflicted the club of late. If Jensen does not make an unexpected recovery, David Hillier, himself sidelined by injury for so long, will be hastily recalled.

This, together with the likelihood that their goalkeeper, David Seaman, might again have to have his ribcage peppered with painkilling injections, demonstrates the intensity with which Arsenal intend to try to hold on to their trophy. To do so, they will have to make history, for no team has retained the Cup Winners' Cup.

For Sampdoria, the Genoese club that has long had an affinity with British teams, this is also a last fling of the season. Their 2-0 defeat in Naples last Sunday angered their Swedish coach, Sven Goran Eriksson, who sounded almost like an Arsenal manager when he thundered about lack of motivation, about commitment, about players willing to fight for the cause.

Seaman has played only against Auxerre in the past five weeks since he cracked a rib. In France, he stretched mind and body to the limit with a memorable and taxing save, but to play without training and when his fitness depends on artificial aid is surely against the basic tenets of sport.

Seaman, 31, knows it. He said yesterday that he acknowledged the use of painkilling injections can be inadvisable, but he added defiantly: "If there's any possible way of getting me fit, I'll do it."

Wouldn't they all? The modern sportsman, chasing fortunes as well as pride, will always put himself and his physical well-being on the line. Whether the doctors should be assisting them is debatable.

Sampdoria also come uncertain in mind and body. Their late president, Paolo Mantovani, made his fortune in shipping and oil and raised Sampdoria on his own love and money. He gambled, for example, in paying £2 million for a 17-year-old. Roberto Mancini, now 30, is the captain of the team and likely tonight to be the lone frontrunner. He is apparently disaffected with the club and looking for an appearance in the final to be a postscript to the best years of his life.

The team also boasted, Mantovani made sure, an affinity with Britain. There was Liam Brady, the last truly creative Arsenal midfield player; there were Trevor Francis and Graeme Souness; and there would be David Platt, who, alas, is suspended from both legs of this semifinal after being sent off in the away leg of the quarter-final against FC Porto.

Sinisa Mihajlovic is also suspended and Riccardo Ferri and Pietro Vierchowod, the defenders, are injured. Add the absence of Ruud Gullit, the Dutchman, who is cuptied, and it is a wounded Italian team that Arsenal face tonight.

Nevertheless, just as wounded, Sampdoria reversed the scoreline against Porto, the team managed by Bobby Robson, winning 1-0 in Portugal, and having the nerve to capitalise during the penalty shoot-out. With players such as Mancini, the winger, Attilio Lombardo, and the Serb, Vladimir Jugovic, they are still not bereft of pedigree.

Neither are Arsenal. John Hartson found plenty of muscular vigour last Saturday and Ian Wright, the masterly winner against Auxerre, has already told us what the Cup Winners' Cup means to him: "We've had taken a lot of stick all this season. The only place we can put things right is on the pitch. We're just focused to that."

PROBABLE TEAMS

ARSENAL (4-4-2) D Seaman — L Dixon, A Adams, S Bould, N Winterburn — P Merson, S Morrow, D Hillier, S Schwarz — I Wright, J Hartson.

SAMPDORIA (4-5-1): W Zenga — M Mannini, S Sacchetti, G Invernizzi, M Rossi — A Lombardo, M Serena, F Salsano, V Jugovic, A Evani — R Mancini.



Karlheinz Riedle, of Borussia Dortmund, is halted by Ciro Ferrara, of Juventus, during the 2-2 draw in the Uefa Cup semi-final first leg in Milan

Chelsea prepare to throw up barricades

From Russell Kempson in Zaragoza

ALL is peaceful here in this pretty cathedral city in northeast Spain, founded by the Romans 2,000 years ago. Late night ventures into the myriad of tiny backstreets hold no fear. Browse at your leisure and choose from the many and varied restaurants and *tapas* bars.

It is a welcome contrast to Bruges five weeks ago, when Chelsea stopped off on the third stage of their expedition in the European Cup Winners' Cup. A siege mentality gripped the Belgian authorities, with the police and large sections of visiting supporters indulging in a series of warped war games. The match, which Chelsea lost 1-0, took on almost secondary importance.

Tonight, when Chelsea play Real Zaragoza in their compact stadium, the atmosphere will be transformed. Logistical problems may have prevented the travelling hordes from descending early, but around 1,800 "official" followers, plus a few renegade parties, are due this morning. Five hundred police will be deployed to control a sell-out crowd of 43,000.

In the absence of extracurricular activity, the verbal crossfire involving Glenn Hoddle, the Chelsea player-manager, and Victor Fernandez, the Zaragoza coach, has provided much of the entertainment in the build-up to the first leg of this semi-final.

Having heard of Zaragoza's poor disciplinary record — 102 bookings and 15 dismissals this season — Hoddle was reported to have closely schooled his players in the Latin arts of moaning and groaning, shirt pulling and falling over. Chelsea would fight theatrics with theatrics.

The reports drew an anguished response from the Spanish media and callers to a local radio phone-in programme. "I was misquoted. I never said they were a dirty team," Hoddle said, attempting to defuse an awkward situation. "Maybe they can be a bit physical at times, but it is a physical game. We have to keep our cool. We mustn't be distracted by anything else."

Fernandez, 34, the youngest coach in the Spanish first division, said: "I am surprised by what has been written. It is not true. Our play is characterised by fairness and respect for the ball and our opponents. We will go forward, we don't know how to play any other way."

One of his team, Nayim, the former Tottenham Hotspur midfield player, was equally adamant. "We try to play football," he said. "We have some temperamental players and perhaps they lose control sometimes, but we are not dirty. Most of our yellow cards are for talking, not kicking."

Whether Zaragoza resort to brain or brawn, Chelsea will have to rise well above their mediocre form in the FA Carling Premiership to retain serious hope for the second leg. With Dennis Wise, the captain, and Eddie Newton out injured, and Gavin Peacock and Andy Myers facing fitness tests, they will unashamedly embark on a damaged limitation exercise, tactics that, allied to substantial determination and resilience, have helped get them this far. When Hoddle said: "We will try to score an away goal," he sounded unconvincing. His main concern, simply, is survival.

PROBABLE TEAMS

REAL ZARAGOZA (3-4-3): A Cedrun (or J Garcia) — A Belsue, J Solana, F Caceres — J G Sanjuan (or Nayim), J Aguado, S Aragon, G Poyet — M Pardeza, J Esnaider, F Higuera.

CHELSEA (4-4-2): K Hitchcock — S Clarke, F Sinclair, E Johnsen, S Minto — A Myers, D Rocastle, N Spackman, G Peacock — P Furlong, J Spencer (or M Stein).

Dalglish prepared to grind out path to title

By Our Sports Staff

AFTER the FA Carling Premiership pendulum swung firmly Blackburn Rovers' way with their 1-0 win over Queens Park Rangers at Loftus Road on Tuesday night, Kenny Dalglish, their manager, admitted there were flaws in his side's performance and said that he would not relax until the title was secured.

The win took Blackburn eight points clear of Manchester United and earned Dalglish breathing space: the side has 34 days to complete its final six matches, exactly twice as much as Manchester United had when they wasted a lead three seasons ago.

"We didn't play as well as we can," Dalglish said. "We would love to entertain and play, but sometimes you have to grind out results. We have worked hard to get in a position to win the championship and we are not going to give it away now."

The vital goal was conceded by Alan McDonald, the Rangers' captain, who stumbled and got the ball stuck between his legs, allowing Chris Sutton to steal in and shoot across Tony Roberts in the 66th minute.

At Old Trafford, the tug-of-war over Eric Cantona continues. Internazionale said yesterday they want to sign the Frenchman, if Manchester United decide to sell him, but United said they hoped to persuade him to stay. Cantona was ordered last Friday to do 120 hours community service for his assault on a Crystal Palace spectator. He has also been banned from world football until September 30.

"We know it will be difficult for Eric to return to normal football in this country, but we think it is possible," Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, said yesterday. "We have a meeting with him and his agent next week and, hopefully, something can be settled." Internazionale have denied reports that they are to discuss a transfer with Cantona's agent.

☐ West Bromwich Albion's bid to raise more than £1 million from a share issue to finance the purchase of new players has failed.

Pressure on Leeds to maintain pursuit of Wigan

By Christopher Irvine

TO HOLD up Wigan's rugby league championship coronation at least until Easter, Leeds must win tomorrow at Wilderspool, which will be difficult given the mood that Warrington are in on a run of seven league games without defeat.

It will be Leeds's third match in six days and there were signs in the 40-20 defeat of Oldham at Headingley on Tuesday of fatigue. The concession of four tries in the second half was not the first occasion lately that Leeds have allowed opponents back into a match.

More encouraging for Leeds were the 32 points contributed by three teenagers — Graham Holroyd, Francis Cummins, and Paul Cook. It is to youth that Doug Laughton, the manager, must now turn, with Garry Schofield struggling with an ankle injury and joining a casualty list that includes Alan Tait and three forwards — James Lowes, Richie Eyres, and George Mann.

"It doesn't look at this stage as though any of them will be available for Warrington," Laughton said. "None of the problems is all that serious, but it could be a week or two before they are available."

By then, Wigan, no matter the permutations, should have the formality of a sixth successive Stones Bitter Championship wrapped up. If Warrington beat Leeds, Wigan could be crowned at home to Bradford Northern on Sunday evening; otherwise it will be at Central Park tomorrow week in the traditional Easter fixture with St Helens.

Scott Gibbs, the St Helens and Wales centre, is resigned to missing that match and, possibly, the remainder of an injury-interrupted first season in rugby league. He underwent a hernia operation at Christmas and has missed the past seven weeks with a dislocated elbow.

Gibbs, 24, and Alan Hunte, the St Helens and Great Britain wing, are due to spend the summer with Manly Warringah in Australia. "I would like to try to help Saints reach the Premiership final at Old Trafford next month, but I'm in a dilemma about returning too soon and jeopardising my future if the elbow isn't right," Gibbs said.

Halifax have put Richard Smith, a back, on the transfer list and will also sell Roy Southernwood, a hooker.

FOR THE RECORD

FOOTBALL

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Luton 2 Brighton 2.

LIBERTADORES CUP: Group four: Palmeiras (Br) 7 Nacional (Ec) 0.

Late results on Tuesday

UEFA CUP: Semi-finals, first leg: Bayer Leverkusen 1 Parma 2, Juventus 2 Borussia Dortmund 2.

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Crystal Palace 0 Aston Villa 0; Queens Park Rangers 0 Blackburn Rovers 1.

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: First division: Burnley 2 Charlton Athletic 0; Luton Town 3 Wolverhampton Wanderers 3; Stoke City 1 Watford 0. Second division: Blackpool 1 Birmingham City 1; Cardiff City 2 Leyton Orient 1; Oxford United 0 Wrexham 0; Peterborough United 1 Swansea City 0. Plymouth Argyle 1 Bristol Rovers 1; Wycombe Wanderers 3 Bradford City 1; York City 3 Hull City 1. Third division: Barnet 2 Lincoln City 1. Carlisle United 1 Chesterfield 1; Exeter City 1 Walsall 3. *Gillingham 1 Bury 1; Wigan Athletic 0* Scunthorpe United 0.

Second division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brentford	39	23	7	9	72	31	76
Huddersfield	40	21	12	7	72	42	75
Birmingham	38	20	12	6	70	30	72
Bristol Rovers	39	18	14	7	62	35	68
Oxford Utd	40	19	10	11	60	47	67
Wycombe	39	17	14	8	50	40	65
Crewe	38	19	6	13	65	62	63
Swansea	39	16	14	9	51	38	62
Blackpool	41	17	10	14	60	59	61
Hull	39	17	10	12	59	49	61
York	40	18	7	15	56	47	61
Bradford	40	16	11	13	56	55	59
Wrexham	39	14	14	11	60	55	56
Stockport	40	18	7	17	55	54	55
Peterborough	40	12	16	12	50	64	52
Brighton	40	12	14	14	47	46	50
Rotherham	40	12	12	16	51	56	48
Shrewsbury	39	11	13	15	48	51	46
Camb Utd	40	8	14	18	47	65	38
Bournemouth	40	9	11	20	40	65	38
Cardiff	40	9	9	22	43	66	36
Plymouth	39	9	8	22	36	73	35
Leyton Orient	39	6	8	25	26	62	26
Chester	40	4	9	27	33	79	21

Third division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Carlisle	36	24	10	2	61	24	82
Chesterfield	36	19	11	6	51	32	68
Walsall	34	19	9	6	64	36	66
Bury	35	18	9	8	56	33	63
Mansfield	36	17	7	12	74	49	58
Preston	36	16	9	11	51	37	57
Doncaster	36	15	10	11	47	31	55
Scunthorpe	36	15	7	14	57	50	52
Barnet	36	14	10	12	46	49	52
Colchester	35	14	8	13	44	52	50
Fulham	35	12	13	10	49	46	49
Torquay	36	12	9	15	45	51	45
Lincoln	35	12	9	14	44	46	45
Rochdale	35	11	12	12	41	54	45
Wigan	35	11	10	14	46	50	43
Hereford	36	10	10	16	38	55	40
Darlington	36	10	7	19	36	49	37
Gillingham	35	8	10	17	38	52	34
Northampton	36	7	13	16	37	54	34
Hartlepool	36	8	9	19	34	62	33
Exeter	36	8	8	20	32	61	32
Scarborough	35	7	8	20	40	58	29

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Bromsgrove 2 *Merthyr 0; Dagenham and Redbridge 0* Welling 0; Gateshead 2 Macclesfield 1; Northwich 4 Runcorn 1, Telford 1 Dover 1; Woking 3 Farnborough 2.

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Partick Thistle 3 Heart of Midlothian 1. First division: Clydebank 1 Raith Rovers 2. Third division: Forfar Athletic 1 Montrose 3.

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Bishop's Stortford 2 Kingstonian 1, Dulwich 4 Aylesbury 3, Grays 2 Enfield 3, Hendon 1 Slough 2; Marlow 0 Hitchin 4; St Albans 1 Yeading 1.

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Bangor City *1 Holywell 1, Barry 3 Aberystwyth 1;* Connah's Quay 1 Mold 3. Ebbw Vale 3 Maesteg Park 0. Llansantffraid 0 Flint 3.

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Crystal Palace 0 Millwall 0

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Coventry 1 Tranmere 2, Notts County 2 Liverpool 2; Sheffield Utd 1 Manchester Utd 1.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bristol Manor Farm 2 Chippenham 1.

HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Almondsbury 0 Shortwood 2, Bicester 2 Fairford 1; Banbury 2 Brackley 1.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Ryde Sports 3 Brockenhurst 0, Swanage and Herston 1 Thatcham 3.

PARASOL COMBINED COUNTIES LGE: Premier division: Ashford 2 Eton Wick 1; Bedfont 2 Viking Sports 1; Godalming and Guildford 0 Ash 0; Netherne 3 Cranleigh 1.

ENGLISH SCHOOLS MATCHES: Premier League Under-16 Trophy: Semi-final: Greater Manchester 0 West Midlands 0 (aet)

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Boston 97 Cleveland 92; Miami 95 Philadelphia 92; Indiana 94 New York 90. LA Lakers 104 Denver 101; Golden State 122 Phoenix 114, *Utah 114 Seattle 92, Portland 95 Minnesota* 91, San Antonio 113 LA Clippers 89; Sacramento 109 Houston 105.

REAL TENNIS

HOBART, Tasmania: World championship final eliminator: W Davies (Aus) bt C Bray (GB) 7-1 (6-5, 6-5, 6-4, 2-6, 6-1, 6-3, 6-4, 6-4)

BRITISH LAND NATIONAL AGE-GROUP CHAMPIONSHIP: Under-24: First round: J Wilcocks bt R Kiznaric 6-5, 6-4; A Blosse bt M Owens 6-3, 5-6, 6-4, M Higney bt M Coghlan 6-5, 6-4; A Snelgrove bt A Knibbs *6-2, 6-5, M Codling bt J Dawes 6-1, 2-6, 6-3;* J Beaumont bt M Wolton 6-0, 6-1; C Swallow bt J Woodcock 6-0, 6-0 Under-21: First round: J Wilcocks bt N Baker 6-0, 6-0, B Ronaldson bt H Cox 6-2, 6-2

BOWLS

CUMBERNAULD: Women's world indoor championship: Section A: A Simon (Guer) bt J Woodley (Scot) 7-2, 7-5; M Castle (NZ) bt M Tosh (Ire) 7-1, 7-3. Section B: M Johnston (Ire) bt C Le Poidevin (Guer) 4-7, 7-3, 7-6; P Smythe (Ire) bt M Fettes (Can) 7-2, 7-2. Section C: J Lindores (Scot) bt S Noel (Jer) 7-4, 7-4; J Dawes (Wales) bt B Brown (Eng) 7-1, 7-0. Section D: M Price (Eng) bt V Stead (Jer) 7-2, 7-6, D Rowlands (Wales) bt M Monkton (Eng) 7-4, 7-3.

MELTON MOWBRAY: English Indoor Bowling Association national championships: Pairs: First round: S Drinkwater and L Gillett (Chipping Norton) bt D Bell and G Harlow (City of Ely) 21-15, T Mitchell and P Talbot (Nottingham) bt H Thompson and D Duffy (Peterborough) 21-15. J Ottaway and R Haydon (Wymondham Dell) bt T Armstrong and A Mayne (Swindon) 24-7. T Branchett and L Shoobridge (Mote Park) bt J Towse and R Packham (Falaise) 19-16, C and G Burgess (Perdiswell) bt H Craig and R Belcher (Ney Valley) 22-13. M Walton and N Bignall (Richardsons) bt J Kelly and D Gilmartin (Plymouth CS) 22-14, D Taylor and S Airey *(Cumbria) bt T Cole and P Ayling* (Tye Green) 22-18, M Knowles and G Warrender (Stevenage) bt G and C Allen (Brackley) 21-20. M Hanson and H Sidebottom (Victory) bt G Marchant and N Skidmore (Rugby Thornfield) 22-21; J Cowie and B Fernandes (Thamesdown) bt A Metcalfe and D Dowson (Great Aycliffe) 18-16. T Clarke and K Bishop (Tilbury) bt A Uccellini and W Firby (Weston St Andrews) 21-19. I Rowlinson and N Smith (East Dorset) bt W Ferry and J Humphrey (Sunderland) 24-15, M Bantock and K Smith (Desborough, Maidenhead) bt G Pay and J Arnold (Dartford Stone Lodge) 25-18. D *Tucker and M Osborne (Exonia) bt J Marshall and D Albury (Browston Hall)* 19-10. D Wilson and N Burns (Leicester) bt A and P Briscoe (Paddington) 24-15. M Tomberry and A Tidby (Dorchester) bt A Friend and A Wyatt (Ipswich) 25-24

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Buffalo 6 Hartford 3; New Jersey 1 Tampa Bay 1; Washington 5 New York Islanders 4; Calgary 3 Chicago 2; Dallas 2 Vancouver 2.

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: First *division: Leeds 40 Oldham 20.* Second division: Dewsbury 9 Ryedale York 9.

RUGBY UNION

HEINEKEN LEAGUE: Second division: Aberavon 31 South Wales Police 10

CLUB MATCH: Maesteg 12 Treorchy 57.

TOUR MATCH: Northern Transvaal 23 Western Samoa 13 (in Pretoria, South Africa)

SKIING

TIGNES, France: British Land national championships: Boys: Super giant slalom: equal 1, J Sharp (Telford) and B Aitken (Ormiston) 51.35sec; 3, B Simpson-Lyons (Sheffield) 51.98.

SNOOKER

PLYMOUTH: British open championship (England unless stated): Second round: S Davis bt A Knowles 5-4; J White bt S James 5-0, J Higgins (Scot) bt K Broughton 5-0; P Francisco (SA) bt N Bond 5-3; *M Hallett bt K* Doherty (Ire) 5-3; A Robidoux (Can) bt J Birch 5-3. M Price bt C Small (Scot) 5-2; J Parrott bt J Ferguson 5-1; S Hendry (Scot) bt D Henry (Scot) 5-3.

TENNIS

LISBON: Men's tournament: First round: A Gaudenzi (It) bt H Leconte (Fr) 6-1, 7-5; G Schaller (Austria) bt M Goellner (Ger) 7-5, 6-1; J Sánchez (Sp) bt C Ruud (Nor) 6-2, 6-1; A Medvedev (Ukr) bt J Arrese (Sp) 4-6, 7-6, 6-3; T Muster (Austria) bt O Martinez (Sp) 6-4, 6-1; B Shelton (US) bt C Costa (Sp) 6-4, 2-6, 7-6, K Novacek (Cz) bt E Couto (Por) 6-2, 7-5.

AMELIA ISLAND, Florida: Women's tournament: *Second round:* G Sabatini (Arg) bt M Gaidano (Arg) 6-0, 6-0; K Nowak (Pol) bt J Wiesner (Austria) 7-6, 6-4; J Gorrochategui (Arg) bt T Whitlinger Jones (US) 6-3, 0-6, 6-3; Z Garrison Jackson (US) bt R Bobkova (Cz) 6-2, 6-2; B Fulco-Villella (Arg) bt S Cecchini (It) 6-1, 6-4; C Rubin (US) bt A Serra-Zanetti (It) 6-2, 6-1; M Babel (Ger) bt E Makarova (Russ) 6-4, 6-1.

CRICKET

ASIA CUP

In Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

India beat Bangladesh by nine wickets.

BANGLADESH

Athar Ali Khan c Mongia b Srinath	17
Mohammed Javed run out	18
Sajjad Ahmad c Mongia b Prabhakar	4
Aminul Islam c Vaidya b Chatterjee	30
Minhazul Abedin run out	21
*Akram Khan c Chatterjee b Vaidya	24
Enamul Haq lbw b Prabhakar	8
Mohammed Rafique b Kumble	2
Khalid Masud lbw b Kumble	4
Saiful Islam not out	22
Anisur Rehman c Sidhu b Vaidya	2
Extras (lb 7, w 1, nb 3)	11
Total (44.4 overs)	163

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-30, 2-40, 3-51, 4-93, 5-98, 6-114, 7-119, 8-125, 9-138.

BOWLING: Prabhakar 10-0-43-2; Srinath 8-3-21-1; Chatterjee 10-0-28-1; Vaidya 8.4-1-41-2; Kumble 8-0-23-2.

INDIA

M Prabhakar not out	53
S R Tendulkar b Rafique	48
N S Sidhu not out	56
Extras (lb 1, w 5, nb1)	7
Total (1 wkt, 27.5 overs)	164

FALL OF WICKET. 1-72.

BOWLING: Rehman 5-0-42-0; Saiful 6-0-31-0; Enamul Haq 8-0-25-0; Rafique 5-0-15-1; Athar Ali 3-0-22-0; Abedin 3-0-19-0; Islam 0.5-0-9-0.

YACHTING

BOC CHALLENGE (solo round-the-world race): *Final stage (from Punta del Este):* Leading positions (at 08.00 GMT yesterday with miles to Charleston, US): Class 1: 1, Sceta Calberson (C Auguin, Fr) 5,420; 2, Hunter's Child (S Pettengill, US) 5,434; 3, Vendee Enterprises (J van den Heede, Fr) 5,439. Class 2: 1, Kodak (G Soldini, It) 5,454; 2, True Blue (D Adams, Aus) 5,466; *3, Newcastle Australia (A Nebauer, Aus)* 5,518.

POOLS DIVIDENDS

For matches played on April 1

LITTLEWOODS: Treble chance (no client with 24pts): 23½ £220,082.26; 23 £2,354.65; 22½ £838.10, 22 £89.30; 21½ £32.80; 21 £10.60; 20½ £2.70. Four draws: £18.90. Ten homes: £85.80. Five aways: void (see rule 9(f)).

VERNONS: Treble chance (no client with 24pts): 23½ £70,829.10; 23 £621.25; 22½ £132.35; 22 £19.55; 21½ £8.30; 21 £2.35. Ten homes nothing barred: £39.20. Five aways: void (stakes may be used in payment of clients' next entries).

ZETTERS: Treble chance: 24 £351.80; 23 £11.80, 22½ £0.75; 22 £22.76 (correct). Four draws: £16.60. Four super homes: £6. Four aways: void (see rule 10(b); stakes may be used in payment of clients' next entries). Lucky numbers: 32, 37, 18, 3, 25, 19.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Ascot

Going: firm

1.55 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Saint Keyne (A P *McCoy, 6-1), 2, Lucky Dollar (11-10 fav), 3,* Just Bruce (33-1). 9 *ran.* 5l, 15l. D Williams. Tote: £7.80; £1.80, £1.30, £3.10. DF: £3.80. Trio: £49.60. CSF: £11.82.

2.30 (3m 110yd ch) 1, Irish Stamp (M Dwyer, 11-10 fav); 2, Docs Dilemma (5-1), 3, Woodlands Power (50-1). 5 ran. NR: Ascot Lad. ¾l, dist. F Murphy. Tote: £1.90; £1.30, £1.40. DF: £3.40. CSF: £6.15.

3.05 (2m 3f 110yd ch) 1, Postage Stamp (M Dwyer, 5-2), 2, Act Of Parliament (11-10 fav); 3, Red Bean (7-2). 5 ran. 10l, 20l. F Murphy. Tote: £3.20; £1.70, £1.30. DF: £2.60. CSF: £5.47.

3.35 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Nahar (D *Bridgwater, 10-11 fav; Richard Evans's nap*), 2, Nawar (6-1), 3, Al Asoof (10-1). 4 ran. 3l, 2½l. S Dow. Tote: £1.80. DF: £4.90. CSF: £5.51.

4.10 (3m hdle) 1, Algaiirawaan (C Llewellyn, 6-1); 2, Badastan (10-1); 3, Hurricane Blake (33-1). Rosina Mae 11-4 fav. 10 ran. 2l, 2l. C Mann. Tote: £6.90; £2.00, £2.80, £4.10. DF: £28.80. Trio: £117.70. CSF: £55.84. Tricast: £1,614.11.

4.45 (2m 3f 110yd ch) 1, Synderborough Lad (Mr M Felton, 13-8 fav), 2, Trust The Gypsy (6-1), 3, Welshman's Gully (13-2). 10 ran. 2l, 1¼l. S Pike. Tote: £2.40; £1.40, £1.80, £2.40. DF: £7.40. Trio: £12.70. CSF: £11.43.

5.20 (2m 110yd flat race) 1, Donnington (Mr J Durkan, 6-5 fav); 2, Tee Cee Pee (8-1), 3, Otter Prince (14-1). 7 ran. NR: Emma's Delight. 15l, 4l. O Sherwood. Tote: £1.90; £1.40, £2.20. DF: £6.70. CSF: £10.56.

5.55 (2m 110yd flat race) 1, Perfect Pal (A P McCoy, 9-4, Thunderer's nap); 2, Sierra Bay (5-4 fav). 3, Fred's Boy (9-2). 6 ran. 3l, 3½l. Miss G Kelleway. Tote: £2.40; £1.30, £1.40. DF: £1.70. CSF: £4.78. Bradlor Penny (14-1) and Duckling (50-1) withdrawn, not under orders. Rule 4 applies to all bets, deduction of 5p in pound.

Placepot: £23.00. Quadpot: £14.20.

Ripon

Going: good to soft, soft in places

2.25 (5f) 1, Playmaker (J Carroll, 15-8 fav). 2, Ramsey Hope (10-1); 3, Whittle Rock (20-1). 16 ran. 1½l, sh hd. J Berry. Tote: £3.10; £1.50, £2.90, £3.20. DF: £38.10. Trio: £216.70, part won (pool of £274.72 carried forward to 3.45 at Aintree today). CSF: £27.40.

2.55 (1m 4f 60yd) 1, Merry Mermaid (K Fallon, 7-2 fav), 2, Rejects Reply (10-1), 3, Borocay (9-2); 4, Anan Spirit (8-1). 17 ran. 3½l, ½l. J Bottomley. Tote: £4.70; £1.40, £4.30, £1.60, £2.00. DF: £72.50. Trio: *£183.00. CSF: £45.65. Tricast: £167.36.*

3.30 (6f) 1, Palacegate Touch (J Carroll, 9-1), 2, Saddlehome (13-2). 3, The Old Chapel (12-1); 4†, Sailormate (9-2 fav); 4†, Tee Tee Too (33-1). 23 ran. 3½l, 1l. J Berry. Tote: £10.70; £2.70, £2.80, £3.30. Sailormate £1.00, Tee Tee Too £9.70. DF: £40.20. Trio: £224.00. CSF: Palacegate Touch, Saddlehome £69.20, Palacegate Touch, Saddlehome £69.20. Tricast: Palacegate Touch, Saddlehome, The Old Chapel £684.02, Palacegate Touch, Saddlehome, The Old Chapel £686.35.

4.00 (1m 1f) 1, Torrential (L Dettori, 4-7 fav; Newmarket Correspondent's nap), 2, Heathyards Rock (6-1); 3, Dance Band (7-1). 7 ran. 3½l, 2½l. J Gosden. Tote: £1.40; £1.10, £2.60. DF: £3.50. CSF: £5.38.

4.30 (1m 4f 60yd) 1, Executive Design (K Darley, 6-1); 2, Contrafire (Evens fav); 3, Beau Matelot (9-1). 7 ran. 1¾l, 5l. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £7.40; £2.30, £1.40. DF: £4.60. CSF: £12.08.

5.00 (1m 2f) 1, Silently (L Dettori, 7-1), 2, Our Tom (12-1); 3, Toy Princess (7-1). Mr Frosty 11-2 jt-fav. 14 ran. 2l, ¾l. I Balding. Tote: £6.80; £3.20, £2.10, £2.10. DF: £52.00. Trio: £52.50. CSF: £84.30. Tricast: £355.28. Labibeh (11-2 jt-fav) withdrawn, not under orders. Rule 4 applies to all bets, deduct 15p in pound.

5.30 (1m) 1, Lucky Di (J Weaver, 13-8 fav). 2, Amanah (9-4); 3, Bernard Seven (13-2). 18 ran. ½l, 8l. L Cumani. Tote: £2.80; £1.40, £1.60, £2.00. DF: £3.00. CSF: £6.40.

Jackpot: £42,274.10.

Placepot: £26.20. Quadpot: £12.80.

Ludlow

Going: good, good to firm in places

2.15 (2m hdle) 1, Sherwood Boy (A Thornton, 4-1), 2, Courtown Boy (11-4 fav), 3, War Well (9-2). 15 ran. NR: Bungee Jumper, Larkridge, Santana Lady. Nk, 5l. K Bailey. Tote: £5.40; £2.40, £1.70, £1.80. DF: £18.90. *Trio: £27.30. CSF: £16.41.*

2.45 (2m hdle) 1, Quinta Royale (A Thornton, 10-1); 2, Golden Madjambo (10-1), 3, Andrath (16-1), 4, Fabulous Princess (33-1). Sovereign Niche 4-1 fav. 18 ran. NR: Betty Barlow, Nigelschinapalace. ¾l, sh hd. L Snook. Tote: £15.00; £2.80, £3.30, £2.10, £4.70. DF: £43.50. Trio: £221.90. CSF: £106.66. Tricast: £1,469.85.

3.20 (3m 4f ch) 1, Dark Oak (L O'Hara, 13-8 fav), 2, Panto Prince (11-2), 3, Abu Muslab (7-1). 7 ran. NR: King's Smart, L'Uomo Piu. 1¼l, 15l. J Curtis. Tote: £1.90; £1.70, £3.10. DF: £5.00. Trio: £68.00. CSF: £10.19. Tricast: £42.62.

*3.50 (3m ch) 1, Wild Illusion (Mr J Trice-*Rolph, 6-5 fav); 2, Final Pride (3-1); 3, Dubai (14-1). 9 ran. 2½l, 2½l. Miss J Pidgeon. Tote: £2.00; £1.10, £1.90, £3.00. DF: £3.40. Trio: £41.50. CSF: £5.36.

4.20 (2m 5f 110yd hdle) 1, First Crack (J Lodder, 11-2), 2, Just Rosie (9-4 jt-fav); 3, It's Delicious (33-1). Precious Juno 9-4 jt-fav. 6 ran. NR: Isabeau, Jefferby, Powlervale. 3l, 15l. F Jordan. Tote: £9.00; £1.90, £2.10. DF: £14.30. Trio: £57.90. CSF: £17.69. Tricast: £335.40.

4.55 (2m ch) 1, Bell Glass (Mr J Jukes, 100-30); 2, Nadiad (5-1); 3, Aldington Chapple (13-2). Katie's Joker 13-8 fav. 7 ran. NR: Celtic Laird. ¾l, 4l. D Davies. Tote: £4.50; £2.70, £2.20. DF: £17.60. CSF: £17.86.

5.25 (2m 5f 110yd hdle) 1, *Mulled Ale* (P Moore, 5-2 fav); 2, Charlafrivola (8-1); 3, Queens Contractor (12-1). 13 ran. NR: Major Yaasi, Most Beautiful, Sovereign Spray. 1½l, nk. S Sherwood. Tote: £2.80; £1.80, £2.40, £4.00. DF: £6.60. Trio: £37.90. CSF: £23.73. Tricast: £200.09.

Placepot: £136.70. Quadpot: £15.60.

Point-to-point

DUMFRIESSHIRE (Lockerbie): Hunt Race: 1, Howayman (K Anderson, 2-5 fav); 2, Kemaline, 3, Mirror Melody. 5 ran. Confined: 1, Sharp Opinion (Miss P Robson, 9-4 fav), 2, *Buckle It Up, 3, Border Folly. 11 ran. Ladies:* 1, Gunmetal Boy (Miss P Robson 1-2 fav); 2, Lyford Cay; 3, Bow Handyman. 9 ran. Open: 1, Jimmy River (K Anderson, 4-7 fav); 2, Press For Action; 3 Little Glen. 8 ran. Restricted 1: 1, Buck's Delight (Miss P Robson, 5-2), 2, Regal Smoker; 3, Hurricane Andrew. 9 ran. Restricted 2: 1, Lucieshwl (Miss D Calder, 3-1); 2, Springhill Quay; 3, Moscow Mule. 5 ran. Maiden 1: Toaster Crumpet (Miss P Robson 4-1); 2, Bitofanatter; 3, Miss Colette. 14 ran. Maiden 2: 1, Sunnyside Up (Miss J Thurlow, 14-1); 2, Give It Laidy; 3, Steady Away. 13 ran.

HEYTHROP: Hunt: 1, Music Score (L Lay, 10-1); 2, Sailor's Delight, 3, Punching Glory. 10 ran. Ladies: 1, Rymer King (Miss R Hussby, 12-1), 2, East River. 5 ran. Open: 1, Severiba Out (E James, 6-4); 2, Scrumpy Country. 3 ran. Confined: 1, Master Much (S Joynes, 5-1); 2, Tango Tom; 3, Phelios. 8 ran. BFSS: 1, Granville Grill (J Deutsch, 7-1); 2, Ovac Star; 3, Perboy. 8 ran. Maiden 1: 1, Everso Irish (B Pollock, 2-1 jt-fav); 2, Brocklesby; 3, Around And About. 5 ran. Maiden 2: 1, Mr Patrick (L Brown, 4-1 jt-fav); 2, Pocket Peat; 3, Evenlode. 8 ran.

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Hendry recaptures his winning touch

STEPHEN HENDRY gave an impeccable performance during a 5-3 victory over his fellow Scot, Drew Henry, in the last 32 of the Castella British Open snooker championships in Plymouth yesterday (Phil Yates writes). Hendry, running into top form nine days before he begins the defence of his world title in Sheffield, compiled breaks of 145, the highest of the event so far, 98 and 142. He exuded confidence throughout the match.

"I can feel my game building up towards it's peak," Hendry said. "I think unconsciously my body starts to make me play well when thoughts of the world championship are in my mind. I lost my track somewhat after Christmas, but now I feel back to my best." Mike Hallett, ranked 35 in the world and in a slump that has lasted four years, caused the biggest upset of the tournament so far with a 5-3 win over Ken Doherty, the world No 7.

Leading men absent

SQUASH: A clash with the Super Squash League play-offs has deprived the national championships, starting in Sheffield today, of all but one of England's top ten men — Jason Nicolle is the exception — and the leading players from Scotland and Wales (Colin McQuillan writes). There will be a full women's field however, with Suzanne Horner seeded to make a successful defence of her British title.

Woodley loses crown

BOWLS: Jan Woodley, the champion, was knocked out of the Churchill Insurance women's world indoor championship in Cumbernauld yesterday. Woodley paid dearly for a 2-7, 5-7 defeat in the morning against Anne Simon, from Guernsey. Despite recovering to beat Marlene Castle, from New Zealand, 7-4, 0-7, 7-4, Simon and Castle qualified for the quarter-final knockout stages on sets differential.

Wasim settles dispute

CRICKET: Wasim Akram, the Pakistan all-rounder, was *due to arrive in Sharjah late last night after refusing* to leave on Tuesday with the rest of the Pakistan party for the Asia Cup limited-overs tournament (Simon Wilde writes). Wasim stayed behind after a dispute with the Pakistan Cricket Board over whether his wife could stay with him in his hotel. Wasim has now arranged for his wife to stay elsewhere.

Wey Valley triumph

BOWLS: Darren O'Toole, Andrew Hatte and their Greek-born skip, Paul Vamvacopoulos, of Wey Valley, Guildford, won the Manchester Unity English national indoor triples championship at Melton Mowbray yesterday. They defeated Ian Peacock, Chris Palmer and John Leeman of Stanley, Durham, 17-14. It was Vamvacopoulos's first national title in many attempts and Wey Valley's second victory in this event.

Bailey shrugs off ground concern for Master Oats

By Julian Muscat

THE more it fails to rain, the more adamant is Kim Bailey that Master Oats will take his chance in the Martell Grand National on Saturday. If anything, the trainer's confidence in his Gold Cup winner is now higher than ever.

Reports from Aintree yesterday spoke of "firm patches" on the Mildmay Course. However, the ground remains officially good on the National course, prompting Bailey to refute suggestions that Master Oats is in danger of missing the race.

"I had people walk the course for me this morning," Bailey said at Ascot yesterday. "One of them described the ground as good, and the other said it was good to soft. The only reason he won't take part is if there is any jar in the ground and I can't believe for one second it will be like that. I seem to be less concerned with the ground than anyone else. I fully intend to run him."

Between races, Bailey took the opportunity to declare Master Oats in excellent shape. "I couldn't be more happy with his preparation," he said. "The blood tests came back absolutely 100 per cent. He's better than he was before the Gold Cup and I couldn't ask for more than that."

Ground conditions and weather forecasts have dominated the Grand National build-up. We are due one further instalment when Bailey walks the course before the three-day fixture starts today. Whatever awaits him, he reiterated his intention to declare Master Oats on Friday and reserve judgment until Saturday morning.

One horse who will not be at Aintree with the rest of the circus is Commercial Artist. The Irish-trained gelding has failed to recover from the bout of colic to afflict him on Tuesday. He will be staying at home.

Adrian Maguire, booked for another fancied Irish challenger in Ebony Jane, suffered a nasty fall from the David Nicholson-trained Miss The Post at Ludlow yesterday. The jockey was taken from the track on a stretcher and sent to Ridgeway Hospital in Swindon for x-rays. However, Maguire's agent, Dave Roberts, later confirmed that the jockey was expected to ride at Aintree today, where he has six booked rides. "I spoke to Adrian earlier this afternoon and he said he felt okay," Roberts said.

In other Grand National developments, David Bridgwater was booked to replace the injured Tony Dobbin aboard General Pershing. Trained by Gordon Richards, General Pershing was supported yesterday with Corals, who cut the horse to 20-1 from 25-1. Young Hustler, now 8-1 from 10-1 and Country Member, a 12-1 chance from two points longer, also caught the eye of punters.

Nigel Twiston-Davies, who originally nominated Bridgwater for the ride on Camelot Knight, has now engaged Mark Rimell, the amateur rider. The same trainer has put Tom Jenks aboard Dakyns Boy. His three-strong raid is completed by Young Hustler, the mount of Carl Llewellyn.

To return to Bailey, events at Ascot yesterday were not kind to the Lambourn trainer. He saddled three fancied horses in the first three races, and finished second every time. However, his spirits were lifted by the victory of Sherwood Boy in the opener, the Mrs Muck Novices' Hurdle, at Ludlow.

Having already won the Champion Hurdle and the Cheltenham Gold Cup, Bailey will become the first trainer to complete the sweep if Master Oats wins the Grand National on Saturday. His horses could hardly be in better form.

[redacted]

Nap: ATTADALE
(5.20 Aintree)
Next best: Itsgoneoff
(4.50 Aintree)

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Country Member remains in demand for the National

[redacted]

THUNDERER

2.00 Golden Arrow
2.35 Barton Bank
3.10 MORCELI (nap).
3.45 Indian Tonic
4.20 William Tell
4.50 Itsgoneoff
5.20 What A Question

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.35 BARTON BANK.

Brian Beel: 4.50 Itsgoneoff.

[redacted]

101 113148 GOOD-TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 .... B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell, P — pulled up, U — unseated rider, B — brought down, S — slipped up, R — refused, D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; F if flat. (B — blinkers, V — visor, H — hood, E — Eyeshield, C — course winner, D — distance winner, CD — course and distance winner, BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard, G — good, S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD, GOOD TO FIRM PATCHES ON MILDMAY COURSE SIS

2.00 SEAGRAM TOP NOVICES HURDLE
(Grade II: £11,072: 2m 110yd) (15 runners)

101 14-1125 CALLISOE BAY 23 (D,G,S) (R Waley) O Sherwood 5-11-8 .... J Osborne 98
102 5-13115 ADDINGTON BOY 101 (CD,F,G) (Gott Foods Ltd) G Richards 7-11-2 .... R Williamson 73
103 1RF11F CAPTAIN KHEDIVE 41 (D,F,G,S) (Khedive Partnership) P Hobbs 7-11-2 .... G McCourt 83
104 11-P18 COLOSSUS OF ROADS 19 (D,BF,G) (D Wilson) T-Thomson Jones 6-11-2 .... D Gallagher 83
105 1136 HIGH LOW 52 (D,BF,S) (M Lantanzaki) W Jarvis 7-11-2 .... T Jarvis 85
106 214-05P OUR MAN MAN 36 (S) (C Cooke) B Whitlam 5-11-2 .... C Swan 54
107 2321 SKY RUN 14 (D,G,S) (Mrs D Thompson) M Pipe 5-11-2 .... R Dunwoody 77
108 20-5213 SUBLIME FELLOW 82 (D,G) (Lady Goldsmith) N Henderson 5-11-2 .... M A Fitzgerald 73
109 1110 BALANAK 21 (G,S) (W Doni) D Gandolfo 4-11-0 .... M Dwyer 87
110 12613 HOME FROM THE HILL 28 (D,G,S) (Mrs R Manning) M Chapman 5-10-11 .... A Thornton 85
111 11 SWEET MIGNONETTE 13F (D,G) (R Whitehead) Mrs M Reveley 7-10-11 .... P Niven 83
112 21 DINO MALTA 19 (G,S) (Lady Harris) D Nicholson 4-10-10 .... A Maguire 75
113 121510 GOLDEN ARROW 21 (D,F,S) (P Mellon) I Balding 4-10-10 .... G Bradley 89
114 F42 SHANKAR 74 (International Plywood Plc) D Nicholson 4-10-10 .... W Marston 72
115 0 STASH-THE CASH 47 (G Steel) T Dyer 4-10-10 .... Peter Hobbs —

BETTING: 5-2 Callisoe Bay, 5-1 Sweet Mignonette, 6-1 Balanak, Golden Arrow, 10-1 Sublime Fellow, 12-1 Captain Khedive, Sky Run, 14-1 Dino Malta, High Low, Home From The Hill, 16-1 others.

1994: JAZILAH 6-11-6 G McCourt (7-4 fav) R Akehurst 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

CALLISOE BAY about 8¾l 5th of 20 to Tourist Attraction in grade I Supreme Novices' Hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 110yd, soft). SKY RUN beat SHANKAR (2lb worse off) 7l in 19-runner maiden hurdle at Wincanton (2m, good to soft). SUBLIME FELLOW 14l 3rd of 10 to Chief's Song in novice hurdle at Ascot (2m 110yd, good). BALANAK beat Tara 12l in 9-runner grade II Dovecote Hurdle at Kempton (2m, heavy) on penultimate start. SWEET MIGNONETTE completed double beat Jibsaid 17l in 7-runner novice hurdle at Doncaster (2m 110yd, good). DINO MALTA beat Seachange 8l in 16-runner novice hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m, soft) with COLOSSUS OF ROADS (6lb better off) 16¾l 6th. GOLDEN ARROW beat Shook 3¼l in 13-runner novice hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 1f, good to soft) on penultimate start.
Selection: CALLISOE BAY

BBC1

2.35 MARTELL CUP CHASE
(Mildmay course: Grade II: £31,558: 3m 1f) (6 runners)

201 31P124 MERRY GALE 21 (D,G,S) (H Stanley) J Dreaper (Ire) 7-11-8 .... G Bradley 84
202 342416 MONSIEUR LE CURE 21 (CD,G,S) (H Brown) J Edwards 9-11-9 .... P Niven 78
203 11-FU3F BARTON BANK 21 (G,S) (Mrs J Mould) D Nicholson 9-11-5 .... A Maguire [illegible]
204 1-16305 KATABATIC 22 (C,F,G,S) (Pell-mell Partners) J Gifford 12-11-5 .... S McNeill 83
205 032368 SECOND SCHEDUAL 22 (D,F,G,S) Miss A McMahon (Ire) 10-11-5 .... R Dunwoody 83
206 2P12-2P MARTOMICK 131 (CD,F,G,S) (R Shaw) K Bailey 8-11-0 .... N Williamson 75

BETTING: 7-4 Barton Bank, 5-2 Merry Gale, 4-1 Martomick, 9-1 Monsieur Le Cure, 14-1 Katabatic, Second Schedual.

1994: DOCKLANDS EXPRESS 12-11-5 R Dunwoody (5-2) K Bailey 4 ran

FORM FOCUS

MERRY GALE 34l 4th of 15 to Master Oats in grade I Tote Gold Cup at Cheltenham (3m 2f 110yd, soft) with MONSIEUR LE CURE 13l 6th and BARTON BANK (4lb better off) fell 15th. MONSIEUR LE CURE beat Sunley Bay 30l in conditions chase at Wincanton (3m 1f 110yd, soft) on penultimate start. BARTON BANK 18½l 3rd to Master Oats in conditions chase at Cheltenham (3m 1f 110yd, heavy) on penultimate start. KATABATIC 22½l 5th to Viking Flagship in grade I Queen Mother Champion Chase at Cheltenham (2m, soft). SECOND SCHEDUAL 42l 6th of 12 to Kadi in handicap chase at Cheltenham (2m 4f 110yd, soft). MARTOMICK 10l 2nd of 6 to Earth Summit in handicap chase at Cheltenham (3m 1f, good).
Selection: BARTON BANK (nap)

BBC1

3.10 SANDEMAN MAGHULL NOVICES CHASE
(Mildmay course: Grade I: £22,640: 2m) (7 runners)

301 041F34 DANCING PADDY 28 (D,G,S) (Britannia R) K Cunningham-Brown 7-11-3 .... R Dunwoody 68
302 2141F3 DUAL IMAGE 40 (D,BF,F,G,S) (Duburb Ltd) Jimmy Fitzgerald 8-11-3 .... M Dwyer 56
303 F2I112F IN TRUTH 23 (G,S) (Mrs E Houlton) S Gollings 7-11-3 .... W Marston 74
304 612122 MARTIN'S LAMP 9 (D,G,S) (Mr & Mrs F Welch) D Nicholson 8-11-3 .... A Maguire 79
305 111410 MONDAY CLUB 23 (D,F,G,S) (J Tuck) J Tuck 11-11-3 .... S McNeill 61
306 U-13115 MORCELI 23 (G,S) (Mrs J Corbett) J Johnson 7-11-3 .... N Williamson 86
307 222113 CAMITROV 23 (G,S) (J Lewis) S Christian 5-10-10 .... J Osborne 96

BETTING: 5-2 Morceli, 5-1 Camitrov, 7-2 Dancing Paddy, Martin's Lamp, 14-1 In Truth, 16-1 others.

1994: NAKIR 6-11-10 J Osborne (6-5 fav) S Christian 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

DANCING PADDY 2¼l 3rd of 7 to Bligh Gale in grade II Pendil Novices' Chase at Kempton (2m 4f 110yd, heavy) on penultimate start. DUAL IMAGE beat Countestance 2l in novice handicap chase at Wetherby (2m, soft). IN TRUTH 1¼l 2nd of 7 to Michael Seely Novice Chase at Nottingham (2m, good to soft) on penultimate start, with DANCING PADDY (7lb better off) fell 4th and DUAL IMAGE (4lb better off) fell 5th. MARTIN'S LAMP 6l 2nd of 4 to Leotard in novice chase at Sandown (2m, good to firm) on penultimate start. MORCELI beat Northern Squire 15l in grade II Dipper Novice Chase at Newcastle (2m 4f, good) on penultimate start. CAMITROV 9¼l 3rd of 11 to Klairon Davis in grade I Arkle Chase at Cheltenham (2m, soft) with DANCING PADDY (1lb better off) 7l 5th, MORCELI (1lb better off) 27½l 7th and MONDAY CLUB (11lb better off) fell 5th. IN TRUTH (1lb better off) fell 9th.
Selection: DANCING PADDY

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TRAINERS: K Bailey, 6 winners from 15 runners, 40.0%; Jimmy Fitzgerald, 5 from 17, 29.4%; J Gifford, 4 from 16, 25.0%; D Nicholson, 8 from 42, 19.0%; G Richards, 6 from 36, 16.7%; N Twiston-Davies, 4 from 26, 15.4%; M Pipe, 9 from 68, 13.2%.
JOCKEYS: C Llewellyn, 3 winners from 10 rides, 30.0%; N Williamson, 3 from 17, 17.6%; C Maude, 3 from 11, 27.3%; R Dunwoody, 11 from 63, 17.5%; L Wyer, 4 from 26, 15.4%; G McCourt, 4 from 27, 14.8%.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Aintree: 3.45 Avonburn. 4.05 Sheraar. Brighton: 3.20 Aragrove. 3.55 Easy Dollar. Leicester: 2.55 Code Of Silence.

BBC1

3.45 JOHN HUGHES MEMORIAL TROPHY CHASE
(Grand National course: handicap: £24,955: 2m 6f) (26 runners)

401 12-1102 DUBLIN FLYER 22 (G,S) (J Sumner) T Forster 9-12-0 .... B Powell 94
402 2P/142P- LATENT TALENT 404 (G,S) (C Heath) S Sherwood 11-11-10 .... J Osborne 80
403 R-40022 BUCKBOARD BOUNCE 27 (D,G,S) (R Ogden) G Richards 9-11-5 .... S McNeill 89
404 222115 BIBENDUM 33 (F,G,S) (R Waley-Cohen) R Waley-Cohen 9-10-11 .... Peter Hobbs 95
405 323-524 SMARTIE EXPRESS 15 (F,G,S) (S Noman) R Hodges 13-10-7 .... R Dunwoody 91
406 6-5P114 SIR PETER LELY 39 (V,F,G,S) (J Doyle Ltd) M Hammond 8-10-7 .... Mr C Bonner (5) 91
407 10-5133 HAVE TO THINK 30 (D,S) (P Lee) A Moore (Ire) 7-10-6 .... Sean Woods 82
408 382-12P RIVER BOUNTY 21 (C,F,G,S) (Uplands Bloodstock) C Brooks 9-10-3 .... G Bradley 87
409 F225UP INDIAN TONIC 42 (CD,G,S) (Mrs J Richards) N Twiston-Davies 9-10-3 .... C Maude [illegible]
410 F-31112 MELEAGRIS 12 (F,G,S) (D Jackson) D Nicholson 11-10-2 .... A Maguire 98
411 122U14 WHAT'S IN ORBIT 75 (F,G,S) (C Paterson) P Nicholls 10-10-0 .... C Swan 90
412 12-3215 GREENHILL RAFFLES 110 (F,G,S) (Miss J Stephens) P Hobbs 9-10-0 .... M A Fitzgerald 91
413 /42/12-4 SOME DAY SOON 14 (F) (C Elgram) M Bradstock 10-10-0 .... P Holley 83
414 321511 URANUS COLLONGES 62 (G,S) (Halewood Int Ltd) Jimmy Fitzgerald 8-10-0 .... M Dwyer 87
415 281522 TOUREEN PRINCE 22 (D,G,S) (P Stamp) Miss H Knight 12-10-0 .... R Farrant 88
416 0-34330 AVONBURN 35 (V,F,G,S) (H Spooner) P Hedger 11-10-0 .... M Richards 90
417 4120/12 WESTERN LEGEND 118 (G,S) (Ms J Laing) J Edwards 11-10-0 .... N Williamson 86
418 3403PP MAN OF MYSTERY 35 (C,G,S) (PCJF B'stock) N Twiston-Davies 9-10-0 .... D Bridgwater 83
419 PP3-232 VELEDA II 15 (F,G,S) (L Froomes) Mrs S Bramall 8-10-0 .... L Wyer 82
420 21P233 HOUGHTON 16 (F,G,S) (G Brown) J Johnson 9-10-0 .... Richard Guest 79
421 122-133 CLARES OWN 153 (F,G,S) (J Wade) J Wade 11-10-0 .... K Jones 73
422 18-241P ROXTON HILL 110 (S) (Mrs B Mead) C Brooks 10-10-0 .... D Gallagher 69
423 RP-FF53 CHANNELS GATE 33 (G,S) (Cabalva Racing) N Twiston-Davies 11-10-0 .... C Llewellyn 81
424 46P3P2 L'UOMO PIU 15 (F,G,S) (C Spencer) A Barrow 11-10-0 .... S Burrough 66
425 525-503 SIRRAH JAY 26 (CD,F,G,S) (Ellen Gale Racing) K Burke 15-10-0 .... L Harvey 82
426 5240P5 ABSAILOR 16 (B,C,F,G) (C L-Campbell) Mrs S Bradburne 11-10-0 .... Mr J Bradburne 70

Long handicap: Some Day Soon 9-12, Uranus Collonges 9-10, Toureen Prince 9-10, Avonburn 9-7, Western Legend 9-7, Man Of Mystery 9-4, Veleda II 9-4, Houghton 9-2, Clares Own 9-2, Roxton Hill 9-2, Channels Gate 9-1, L'Uomo Piu 8-9, Sirrah Jay 7-8, Absailor 7-7.

BETTING: 11-2 Dublin Flyer, 8-1 Indian Tonic, Meleagris, 12-1 Have To Think, Uranus Collonges, Western Legend, 14-1 Greenhill Raffles, Smartie Express, Toureen Prince, 16-1 Bibendum, Sir Peter Lely, 20-1 others.

1994: INDIAN TONIC 8-10-4 C Maude (5-1) N Twiston-Davies 16 ran

FORM FOCUS

DUBLIN FLYER 1l 2nd of 12 to Kadi in handicap chase at Cheltenham (2m 4f 110yd, soft). BUCKBOARD BOUNCE 1¾l 2nd of 15 to Country Member in amateurs chase at Sandown (3m 110yd, good to soft). BIBENDUM beat Sarath Royal 3l in handicap chase at Nottingham (2m 4f, good to soft). SMARTIE EXPRESS 11¼l 2nd of 3 to Earlshaw in handicap chase at Sandown (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft) on penultimate start. SIR PETER LELY beat Comet 8l in handicap chase at Edinburgh (2m 4f, good). HAVE TO THINK 5¼l 3rd of 4 to Flashing Steel in extended handicap chase at Fairyhouse (3m 1f, soft). INDIAN TONIC best effort this term ¾l 2nd of 7 to Whispering Steel in handicap chase at Cheltenham (3m 1f 110yd, yielding). MELEAGRIS neck 2nd of 8 to Well Briefed in handicap chase at Newbury (3m, good). URANUS COLLONGES beat Badi Knoll 1¼l in handicap chase at Kelso (3m 4f, good to soft).
Selection: MELEAGRIS

BBC2

4.20 GLENLIVET ANNIVERSARY 4-Y-O HURDLE
(Grade II: £25,460: 2m 110yd) (19 runners)

501 3111 KISSAIR 21 (D,S) (T Benson) M Pipe 11-4 .... J Lower [illegible]
502 111122 SILVER WEDGE 21 (B,D,G,S) (Mrs S Robins) D Nicholson 11-4 .... A Maguire 90
503 25 AMBER VALLEY 10F (Berkshire Components Ltd) D Williams 11-0 .... M A Fitzgerald 63
504 BACKGAMMON 191F (W Stait) J Old 11-0 .... T Grantham —
505 11215 CLIFTON BEAT 21 (D,S) (D O'Connor) P Hobbs 11-0 .... G McCourt 89
506 1400 GOBSMACKED 21 (B,D,S) (J Potter) G Richards 11-0 .... C Swan 76
507 212311 GOLDEN HELLO 19 (D,F,G,S) (G Shoulder) M H Easterby 11-0 .... L Wyer 87
508 U4292 INCULCATE 26 (B,BF) (Swan Racing) C Weedon 11-0 .... Peter Hobbs 74
509 54 LESLEY'S ANGEL 12 (BF) (Blakeley Painters Ltd) K Bailey 11-0 .... N Williamson 54
510 00 MAMNOON 21 (B) (Mrs V Wood) W Clay 11-0 .... Diana Clay 73
511 31F MEDITERRANEO 40 (S) (B & D Whitney) R Akehurst 11-0 .... R Dunwoody 79
512 322PP5 PLATO'S REPUBLIC 12 (D,F) (Mrs E Long) J Jenkins 11-0 .... D Bridgwater 64
513 P1106 RIVER JUNCTION 12 (CD,G) (The Superfoot Pinrs) D Nicholson 11-0 .... W Marston 74
514 110 STOMPIN 21 (D,G,S) (The Voice Group Ltd) Miss H Knight 11-0 .... J Osborne 78
515 121 WILLIAM TELL 13 (D,F,G) (T Hemmings) M Hammond 11-0 .... P Niven 76
516 324148 WINN'S PRIDE 20 (D,S) (Mrs W Bailey) R Hollinshead 11-0 .... S Wynne 64
517 431130 ESKIMO-NEL 13F (D,BF,G,S) (First Chance Racing) J Spearing 10-9 .... A P McCoy 75
518 611240 NOTCOMPLAININGBUT 21 (D,G,S) (Mrs C Moore) P Mullins (Ire) 10-9 .... T P Treacy 87
519 0404 TURRET 26 (Mrs T Byrne) R Brotherton 10-9 .... L Harvey 54

BETTING: 3-1 Kissair, 9-2 Golden Hello, 6-1 Clifton Beat, Silver Wedge, William Tell, 12-1 Stompin, 14-1 others.

1994: TROPICAL LAKE 4-10-9 K O'Brien (10-1) M Hourigan (Ire) 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

KISSAIR beat Dr Leunt (disqualified) 2½l in grade I Daily Express Triumph Hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 1f, soft) with SILVER WEDGE 8l 3rd (promoted to 2nd), CLIFTON BEAT (4lb better off) 5¼l 6th (promoted to 5th), GOBSMACKED (4lb better off) 10l 12th, MAMNOON (4lb better off) 3l 13th, NOTCOMPLAININGBUT (4lb better off) 3l 14th and STOMPIN (4lb better off) 25l 18th. GOLDEN HELLO beat Fair And Fancy 10l in handicap hurdle at Newcastle (2m 110yd, good to firm). RIVER JUNCTION beat AMBER VALLEY 3½l in juvenile hurdle at Fakenham (2m, good). STOMPIN beat Chickawicka 7l in juvenile hurdle at Warwick (2m, soft). WILLIAM TELL beat Emilymoore 8l in juvenile hurdle at Kelso (2m 2f, good to firm).
Selection: GOLDEN HELLO

4.50 CUVEE NAPA NOVICES HUNTERS CHASE
(Mildmay course: amateurs: £10,309: 3m 1f) (8 runners)

601 03U2 CONVINCING 12P (J Comforth) J Comforth 11-12-0 .... P Comforth 58
602 112 FIFTYSEVENCHANNELS 30 (D,S) (J Cooper) T Walford 6-12-0 .... N Wilson 78
603 1-111 ITSGONEOFF 20 (G,S) (Mrs E Kennedy) Miss C Saunders 6-12-0 .... T Marks [illegible]
604 P3-12 MAGNOLIA MAN 14 (S) (Mrs D Lund) Ms D Cole 9-12-0 .... N Harris 87
605 0-3 MAJOR MAC 12P (D Williams) D Williams 8-12-0 .... M Trassig —
606 20/1F-31 MR FUDGE 17 (F,S) (P Clifford) M Sowersby 8-12-0 .... M Sowersby 82
607 1-21F PROUD SUN 13 (G,S) (S Pike) S Pike 7-12-0 .... M Felton 89
608 12/2P VAGUE INFLUENCE 30 (S) (T Barlow) M Mullineaux 9-12-0 .... D Barlow 62

BETTING: 5-4 Itsgoneoff, 3-1 Proud Sun, 5-1 Fiftysevenchannels, 7-1 Magnolia Man, 8-1 Mr Fudge, 12-1 others.

1994: GRANGE BRAKE 8-10-0 D Bridgwater (14-1) N Twiston-Davies 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

FIFTYSEVENCHANNELS 15l 2nd of 5 to Coverdale Lane in hunter chase at Leicester (3m, heavy). ITSGONEOFF beat Saint Bene't 25l in 10-runner novice hunter chase at Fakenham (2m 5f 110yd, good to soft). MAGNOLIA MAN 6l 2nd of 14 to Cooning Hill in novice hunter chase at Wincanton (2m 5f, good to soft). PROUD SUN beat Blakes Orphan 8l in novice hunter chase at Nottingham (3m 110yd, good to soft) on penultimate start.
Selection: ITSGONEOFF

5.20 BARTON & GUESTIER HANDICAP HURDLE
(£9,756: 3m 110yd) (18 runners)

1 2-21164 HEBRIDEAN 21 (D,G,S) (P Deal) D Nicholson 8-12-0 .... A Maguire 97
2 112P11 ALLEGATION 20 (V,G,S) (Martin Pipe Racing Club) M Pipe 5-11-3 .... R Dunwoody 94
3 11-5266 ATTADALE 23 (D,F,G,S) (C MacPhie) L Lungo 7-10-11 .... M Dwyer 98
4 2-34520 OLYMPIAN 22 (B,F,G) (M & N Plant Ltd) Mrs L Murphy 8-10-11 .... D Gallagher 98
5 139002 WHAT A QUESTION 11 (G,S) (Mr M Valentine) M Morris (Ire) 7-10-10 .... N Williamson [illegible]
6 131100 MYSTIC MEMORY 22 (D,F,G) (Camoustie Racing) Mrs M Reveley 6-10-2 .... P Niven 92
7 608006 CARDINAL RED 21 (CD,F,G) (Mrs F Walwyn) B De Haan 8-10-0 .... G Upton —
8 131230 ISLAND JEWEL 23 (D,S) (M Cartwright) J Besley 7-10-0 .... M Bosley 91
9 224445 LOCH SCAVAIG 17 (F,G,S) (Mrs G Turnbull) D Moffatt 6-10-0 .... D J Moffatt (3) 98
10 21-0163 MAJOR BELL 28 (D,F,G,S) (A Williams) A Whillans 7-10-0 .... M Moloney 91
11 54000F GOSPEL 5 (F,S) (Mrs J Powell) N Twiston-Davies 6-10-0 .... C Llewellyn 90
12 U120-50 SO PROUD 22 (F,S) (S Tindall) S Mellor 10-10-0 .... M Perrett 94
13 2064PP ZAMIRAH 19 (F,G,S) (H Twiston-Davies) N Twiston-Davies 6-10-0 .... D Bridgwater 92
14 412103 NICK THE BEAK 47 (S) (Sir Nicholas Wilson) J Upson 6-10-0 .... R Supple 82
15 312214 AMBLE SPEEDY 33 (D,G,S) (R Mimels) A Moore (Ire) 5-10-0 .... F Woods 78
16 223135 LANSDOWNE 23 (D,S) (R Dennead) G Ham 7-10-0 .... D Fort (5) 85
17 21U SEOD RIOGA 63 (S) (S Thodall) S Mellor 8-10-0 .... N Mann 70
18 414204 PLUMBOB 16 (G) (Kenmore Estates Ltd) Mrs S Bradburne 6-10-0 .... R Murphy (7) 77

Long handicap: Island Jewel 9-13, Loch Scavaig 9-13, Major Bell 9-12, Gospel 9-12, So Proud 9-11, Zamirah 9-11, Nick The Beak 9-5, Amble Speedy 9-5, Lansdowne 9-2, Seod Rioga 8-11, Plumbob 8-1.

BETTING: 4-1 Allegation, 5-1 Attadale, What A Question, 6-1 Hebridean, 8-1 Olympian, 10-1 others.

1994: MEDITATOR 10-11-2 S Curran (20-1) Miss J Doyle 20 ran

FORM FOCUS

HEBRIDEAN 10l 4th to Dosses Pride in Stayers Hurdle at Cheltenham (3m 110yd, soft) with CARDINAL RED (28lb better) and WHAT A QUESTION (11lb better) beaten distance in 6th and 7th. ALLEGATION beat Cab On Target 3¼l in hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 4f, soft). OLYMPIAN 10l 2nd to Miracle Man in handicap hurdle (2m 6f, heavy). MYSTIC MEMORY best effort beat Cab On Target 2l in handicap hurdle at Ascot (3m, good). SO PROUD 13l 8th to Chance Coffey in handicap hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 5f, soft) with GOSPEL (1lb better) 6l 14th, OLYMPIAN (4lb better) 40l 21st and MYSTIC MEMORY (5lb better) 41l 28th.
Selection: MYSTIC MEMORY

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

AINTREE
BBC1

2.35: Barton Bank will be suited by this flatter track and a return to his best would give him outstanding claims, but he made several mistakes in the Cheltenham Gold Cup before falling five out and cannot be backed with confidence. Martomick will appreciate the good ground and is reportedly in form despite not having raced since November. However, preference is for **Merry Gale**, who forced the pace for a long way in the Gold Cup before his stamina limitations were exposed. This shorter trip, better ground and sharper track will suit.

3.10: Camitrov had Dancing Paddy, Morceli, Monday Club and In Truth (fell) behind him when a good third in the Arkle Chase. There is no obvious reason why the form should be reversed. The front-running Martin's Lamp, who faded dramatically at Sandown nine days ago when looking sure to win, should ensure a sound pace, which will help the selection.

3.45: An ability to cope with the National fences will matter just as much as recent form and none makes more appeal than **Uranus Collonges**. Well supported in the ante-post market, this giant of a horse should take to this test. Although he has been running over further, he does not lack pace and is likely to be near the leaders. Dublin Flyer was pipped by Kadi at Cheltenham and is another who should relish this course but may have too much weight. Meleagris is a tricky customer but has bags of talent. After losing several lengths at the start, he only just failed to beat Well Briefed at Newbury recently.

BBC2

4.20: Clifton Beat was 14 lengths behind Kissair in the Triumph Hurdle but there is reason to believe he can reverse the form. He has plenty of pace and his only defeats have come on Cheltenham's stiff track. He looks sure to relish today's better ground and Philip Hobbs has had this race in mind for some time.

Kissair is on the upgrade but may not be so effective on this ground. A strong each-way prospect is William Tell, who carries considerable stable confidence after a convincing victory at Kelso a fortnight ago. He was better than most of these on the Flat and is open to further improvement.

Richard Evans

LEICESTER

THUNDERER

2.25 Christmas Kiss. 2.55 Roseate Lodge. 3.30 In The Money. 4.05 Sadler's Walk. 4.40 Coffee 'N Cream. 5.10 Viyapari. 5.40 Heboob Alshemaal.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE SIS

2.25 KEYTHORPE MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES
(3-Y-O: £4,037: 7f 9yd) (12 runners)

1 (10) 23- A LA CARTE 180 J Dunlop 8-11 .... Pat Eddery 93
2 (6) ANITA'S CONTESSA B Palling 8-11 .... T Sprake —
3 (7) CAP AND GOWN P Cole 8-11 .... T Quinn —
4 (2) 00- CARNBREA BELLE 169 M Bell 8-11 .... R Mullen (7) —
5 (12) CASK J Gosden 8-11 .... L Dettori [illegible]
6 (6) 20-4 CHRISTMAS KISS 13 R Hannon 8-11 .... W R Swinburn 74
7 (1) 0 CORRIEVARKIE 13 Miss G Kelleway 8-11 .... R Cochrane 82
8 (4) 0-3 FAIRELAINE 12 A Jarvis 8-11 .... B Thomson 90
9 (9) 260- HARD LOVE 191 S Woods 8-11 .... C Webb (7) —
10 (11) 0 ROOKERY GIRL 44 D Morris 8-11 .... C Hodgson (3) —
11 (5) RUSSIAN MAID J Fanshawe 8-11 .... D Harrison —
12 (3) SELF RELIANCE M Bell 8-11 .... M Fenton —

2-1 Cask, 5-2 A La Carte, 6-1 Christmas Kiss, 8-1 Hard Love, Cap And Gown 10-1 Self Reliance, 16-1 others.

2.55 BILLESDON SELLING STAKES
(£2,893: 7f 9yd) (17)

1 (14) 2112 SEA DEVIL 19 (D,BF,F,G,S) M Camacho 9-9-12 .... L Charnock 97
2 (15) -035 BEWARE OF AGENTS 85 (D,F,S) M Hammond 6-9-7 .... Dean McKeown [illegible]
3 (11) 0330 BOLD ARISTOCRAT 17 (G) R Hollinshead 4-9-7 .... A Garth (5) 92
4 (13) 4000 BOLD MICK 10 (S) D Murray Smith 4-9-7 .... L Dettori 96
5 (8) 060- EXPORT MONDIAL 12J P Burgoyne 5-9-7 .... T Quinn (3) —
6 (17) 500- GLEN MILLER 168 (CD,F) J Payne 5-9-7 .... M Tebbutt 80
7 (16) 063- INFANTRY GLEN 16J (G) P Cundell 5-9-7 .... W Newnes 71
8 (10) 0503 MAKE THE BREAK 47 (D,F,G) S Costeup 4-9-7 .... K Darley 96
9 (12) 06/ MAQUELSEDR 184J (S) A Newcombe 5-9-7 .... D Griffiths (5) —
10 (2) 06-5 ROSEATE LODGE 34 (F,G) K Burke 9-9-7 .... T Ives 91
11 (6) 40-0 WADADA 14 (B) S Campion 4-9-7 .... W R Swinburn —
12 (3) -000 ARAWA 47 (D,G) D Marks 5-9-2 .... M Rimmer 71
13 (1) 043- NAKITA 117 (F,S) C Allen 4-9-2 .... M Baird (5) 91
14 (7) 6000 ROSINA'S FOLLY 21 J L Harris 4-9-2 .... Paul Eddery 83
15 (4) 200- CODE OF SILENCE 197 (V) B Palling 3-8-6 .... T Sprake 79
16 (5) 2142 DOWDENCY 7 (D,G) J Pickering 3-8-6 .... N Carlisle 98
17 (9) 00- CORINA'S GLOW 213 Miss J Craze 3-8-1 .... S Webster —

7-2 Sea Devil, 9-2 Dowdency, 6-1 Beware Of Agents, 7-1 Nakita, 8-1 Bold Aristocrat, 10-1 Bold Mick, Roseate Lodge, 12-1 others.

3.30 KINGFISHER HANDICAP
(£3,817: 1m 3f 183yd) (19)

1 (7) 12- BAYRAK 336 (D,G) M Ryan 5-10-0 .... R Cochrane 90
2 (15) -130 SLMAAT 43 (D,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 4-9-12 .... K Darley 95
3 (15) 202- EXEMPTION 170 (F) H Candy 4-9-11 .... W Newnes 96
4 (9) 000- REQUESTED 152 (F,G) P Burgoyne 8-9-9 .... J Tate (3) —
5 (17) 3140 IN THE MONEY 14 (D,F,G) R Hollinshead 6-9-6 .... L Dettori 97
6 (18) 050- ALJAWAB 156 J Dunlop 4-9-4 .... Pat Eddery 95
7 (13) 250- DOUBLE ECHO 272 (D,F,G,S) J Bethell 7-9-4 .... W R Swinburn 90
8 (3) -060 HAROLDON 15J (V,F,G) B Palling 6-9-4 .... T Sprake —
9 (4) 000- ART TATUM 197 (G,S) R Hannon 4-9-4 .... M Hills 97
10 (13) -005 RAPPORTEUR 13 (D,F,G,S) C C Elsey 9-9-2 .... D Harrison 94
11 (12) 0-42 JEMIMA PUDDLEDUCK 10 (G,S) D Arbuthnot 4-8-13 .... T Quinn [illegible]
12 (2) 400- BROUGHTONS FORMULA 267 (D,G) W Musson 5-8-12 .... P McCabe (5) 89
13 (6) 3434 CLIBURNEL NEWS 37 (D,F,G) A Forbes 5-8-11 .... P Robinson 95
14 (14) 2-00 ENVIRONMENTALIST 14 (D,S) S Williams 4-8-11 .... A Mackay 88
15 (5) 020- ALLAHRAKHA 15J D R Tucker 4-8-9 .... J Williams 96
16 (1) 650- JARROW 199 Mrs A Naughton 4-8-5 .... A Culhane 87
17 (2) 00-2 CLIFTON GAME 12J P Murphy 5-8-0 .... B Carter 98
18 (19) 400- SOUTHAMPTON 28J G Balding 5-7-8 .... N Varley (5) 88
19 (11) /0 ALIZARIN 17 J L Harris 6-7-7 .... C Hawksley (5) —

6-1 Jemima Puddleduck, 7-1 Bayrak, Exemption, 8-1 Aljawab, 10-1 Rapporteur, Double Echo, 14-1 others.

4.05 GREYHOUND HANDICAP
(£4,138: 1m 1f 218yd) (17)

1 (6) 000- SHOW FAITH 175 (G,S) R Hannon 5-10-0 .... Pat Eddery 90
2 (11) -110 BENFLEET 43 (C,G,S) R Armstrong 4-9-10 .... L Dettori 86
3 (13) 20-0 ROI DE LA MER 13 J Akehurst 4-9-6 .... G Carter 91
4 (9) 010- SADLER'S WALK 204 (CD,F) G Wragg 4-9-6 .... M Hills 90
5 (17) 300- SHARAAR 16J (B,D,G,S) G Rimmer 4-9-5 .... K Darley 90
6 (14) 512- SUPERLUMINAL 168 (D,S) J Wharton 4-9-5 .... M Rimmer 90
7 (3) 332- SHARP FALCON 153 (D,F,S) J Wharton 4-9-5 .... R Cochrane 98
8 (5) 0/0- EDEN'S CLOSE 20J (F) M Tompkins 5-9-4 .... P Robinson —
9 (1) -000 FRIENDLY BRAVE 72 (S) T Mills 5-9-4 .... Paul Eddery 87
10 (8) 000- COLONEL COLT 110J R Dickin 4-9-2 .... W R Swinburn 89
11 (4) 100- TOTAL JOY 204 (D,F) P Cole 4-8-12 .... T Quinn 93
12 (15) 410- BESCABY BOY 156 (CD,F,G,S) J Wharton 9-8-11 .... K Fallon 92
13 (2) 2-11 QUEENS STROLLER 10 (G) C C Elsey 4-8-11 (5ex) .... D Harrison 98
14 (10) 00/ PLATINI 20J G Balding 4-8-9 .... J Williams —
15 (16) 506- LORD OF A DANCE 339 W Haggas 4-8-0 .... R Hills [illegible]
16 (12) 004- ROCK THE BARNEY 157 (CD,G) P Burgoyne 6-7-12 .... N Carlisle 91
17 (7) -106 SCOTTISH PARK 8 (D,F,G,S) R Emery 6-7-9 .... G Bardwell 89

5-1 Benfleet, 6-1 Sharp Falcon, 7-1 Sadler's Walk, Superluminal, 8-1 Queens Stroller, 10-1 Roi De La Mer, 12-1 Show Faith, 16-1 others.

4.40 LODDINGTON CONDITIONS STAKES
(3-Y-O: £5,302: 5f 218yd) (6)

1 (6) 241- THE JOTTER 211 (D,G,S) W Jarvis 9-1 .... W R Swinburn [illegible]
2 (3) 200- COFFEE 'N CREAM 232 (C,F) R Hannon 8-10 .... Pat Eddery 97
3 (4) 125- BAADERAH 191 (D,G) L Cumani 8-9 .... L Dettori 98
4 (2) 400- FAKHIRA 180 (S) J Pearce 8-9 .... G Bardwell 90
5 (5) 3- PARIS BABE 238 D Morris 8-5 .... G Duffield 75
6 (1) -423 SHARP HOLLY 2 J Bennett 8-5 .... T Sprake 70

5-4 Baaderah, 7-4 The Jotter, 4-1 Coffee 'N Cream, 14-1 Sharp Holly, 16-1 others

5.10 BESCABY MAIDEN STAKES
(Div I: 3-Y-O: £3,935: 1m 8yd) (12)

1 (3) AHAALEE E Dunlop 9-0 .... W R Swinburn —
2 (12) 000- AL SAFEER 244 J Hills 9-0 .... R Hills 72
3 (9) BARBASON J Fanshawe 9-0 .... D Harrison —
4 (5) 40- DAUNT 191 J Gosden 9-0 .... L Dettori 90
5 (7) 0- EMPOWER 190 R Hannon 9-0 .... M Hills —
6 (6) 0-60 FULL COVER 6 (V) D Elsworth 9-0 .... W Newnes 88
7 (11) 33- RIVER KEEN 187 R Armstrong 9-0 .... R Price 92
8 (8) 00- TIRLIE 182 J Payne 9-0 .... B Thomson —
9 (2) 3- VIYAPARI 173 L Cumani 9-0 .... K Darley [illegible]
10 (10) 00- MISS BIARRITZ 159 M Bell 8-9 .... M Fenton —
11 (1) 40 SPEEDYBIRD 42 B Meehan 8-9 .... B Doyle 60
12 (4) SUPERFLEX D Morris 8-9 .... C Hodgson (3) —

7-4 Viyapari, 3-1 Daunt, 7-2 River Keen, 7-1 Ahaalee, 10-1 Full Cover, 12-1 Al Safeer, Barbason, 16-1 others.

5.40 BESCABY MAIDEN STAKES
(Div II: 3-Y-O: £3,901: 1m 8yd) (11)

1 (8) BANADAM B Hanbury 9-0 .... W Ryan —
2 (5) 0- BLISLAND 190 R Charlton 9-0 .... Pat Eddery 85
3 (6) 2- DANCES WITH HOOVES 171 D ffrench Davis 9-0 .... J Williams [illegible]
4 (11) INVEST WISELY J Eustace 9-0 .... R Cochrane —
5 (7) 63- MEDAILLE MILITAIRE 177 J Dunlop 9-0 .... T Quinn 98
6 (1) MY BOY JOSH R Guest 9-0 .... G Duffield —
7 (9) 0- ORSAY 191 W Muir 9-0 .... M Hills —
8 (10) SAYITAGAIN T Mills 9-0 .... Paul Eddery —
9 (3) 0- EQUITY'S DARLING 267 M Bell 8-9 .... M Fenton (7) —
10 (4) HEBOOB ALSHEMAAL J Gosden 8-9 .... L Dettori —
11 (2) 380- LE BAL 241 Mrs N Macauley 8-9 .... J Fortune 67

3-1 Heboob Alshemaal, 7-2 Dances With Hooves, 4-1 Medaille Militaire, 7-1 Blisland, 8-1 Banadam, 10-1 Invest Wisely, Sayitagain, 12-1 others.

BRIGHTON

THUNDERER

2.15 Arvzees. 2.45 Tyrian Purple. 3.20 Chewit. 3.55 Easy Dollar. 4.30 Jumairah Sun. 5.00 Head Turner. 5.30 Kintwyn.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 4.30 JUMAIRAH SUN (nap). 5.00 Able Choice. 5.30 Just Harry.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES) SIS
DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.15 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND SOUTHWICK MAIDEN STAKES
(2-Y-O: £2,820: 5f 59yd (5 runners)

1 33 ARVZEES 7 M Channon 9-0 .... R Hughes 1
2 BATH KNIGHT D ffrench Davis 9-0 .... N Adams 4
3 GENERAL ROSE R Hannon 9-0 .... R Perham 2
4 4 DEAKEN DANCER 10 K Ivory 8-9 .... C Scally (7) 5
5 2 MISS OFFSET 6 M Johnston 8-9 .... T Williams 3

11-8 Miss Offset, 9-4 Arvzees, 5-2 General Rose, 10-1 others.

2.45 ELM GROVE CLAIMING STAKES
(£2,519: 5f 213yd) (15)

1 000- SHIKARI'S SON 168 (CD,F,G) J White 8-9-7 .... R Hughes 14
2 6003 APOLLO RED 12 (CD,G,S) A Moore 6-8-7 .... Candy Morris 9
3 000- BILLY CRUNCHEON 170 (D,S) M Pipe 4-8-7 .... A McGlone 15
4 0-04 DAHIYAH 21 (V) G L Moore 4-8-7 .... C Teague (7) 2
5 0100 FARMER JOCK 17 (CD,F,G,S) Mrs N Macauley 13-8-7 .... A Clark 8
6 1203 TYRIAN PURPLE 5 (B,D,F,G,S) T Naughton 7-8-7 .... J Weaver 6
7 /0- AMBER NECTAR 129 (D,F) B Pearce 9-8-5 .... Stephen Davies 11
8 320- STARSPORT 251J (B) D ffrench Davis 4-8-5 .... R Waterfield (7) 3
9 6060 WAVERLEY STAR 6 (C,D,F,G,S) K C-Brown 10-8-3 .... W Woods 10
10 0646 SPLASH OF SALT 6 (B,D,F,G) T Naughton 5-8-2 .... S Sanders (3) 12
11 0506 CRAFTY CRICKETER 33 (B) R Flower 4-8-1 .... S Lanigan (7) 7
12 2243 PAIR OF JACKS 6 (D,G) D Wilson 5-8-1 .... J Quinn 4
13 /0-0 VICTORIA PRINCESS 84 M Madgwick 8-8-0 .... T Williams 13
14 05-0 FLUTTER WITH LIFE 21 Mrs A Jenny 4-7-12 .... N Adams 5
15 000- GRECIAN GARDEN 165 (CD,F) R Spicer 4-7-10 .... D Wright (3) 1

3-1 Shikari's Son, 9-2 Tyrian Purple, 6-1 Dahiyah, 7-1 Pair Of Jacks, 8-1 Apollo Red, Farmer Jock, 10-1 Starsport, 14-1 others.

3.20 BRIGHTON SPRING HANDICAP
(£3,732: 5f 213yd) (9)

1 34-0 CHAMPAGNE GRANDY 13 (D,G,S) M Channon 5-9-10 .... R Hughes 6
2 -221 CHEWIT 8 (D,G) A Moore 3-9-2 (7ex) .... Candy Morris 4
3 50-1 ANOTHER JADE 5 (CD,G,S) A Jarvis 5-8-13 (7ex) .... J Weaver 7
4 2344 SPEEDY CLASSIC 12 (D,F,G) M Heaton-Ellis 6-8-11 .... W Woods 3
5 630- LA PETITE FUSEE 110 (D,G,S) R O'Sullivan 4-8-11 .... A Clark 9
6 01- GOLDEN LADY 164 (D,G) R Hannon 3-8-11 .... W Carson 8
7 5431 MAID WELCOME 12 (V,C,F,G) Mrs N Macauley 8-8-5 .... Amanda Sanders (7) 1
8 0-00 ARAGROVE 12 (B,C,D,F,G) J Payne 5-8-1 .... D Wright (3) 2
9 000- PADDY'S RICE 190 (D,F) L Holt 4-7-12 .... Iona Wands (7) 5

7-2 Speedy Classic, 4-1 Golden Lady, 9-2 Champagne Grandy, 5-1 Another Jade, 6-1 Chewit, 7-1 Maid Welcome, 10-1 La Petite Fusee, 12-1 others.

3.55 HOLLINGBURY CONDITIONS STAKES
(3-Y-O: £4,003: 6f 209yd) (9)

1 124- EMERGING MARKET 229 (F) J Dunlop 9-4 .... W Carson 8
2 135- SERGEYEV 215 (G) R Hannon 9-2 .... R Hughes 6
3 500- BALLESTRO 185 J Pitch-Hayes 8-12 .... D Biggs 2
4 0- DISSENTOR 197 L Cumani 8-12 .... G Mitchell (7) 1
5 430- EASY DOLLAR 296 (B) B Gubby 8-12 .... J Quinn 4
6 00-6 FALSE PRETENCES 8 B Pearce 8-12 .... Stephen Davies 3
7 00-2 FORZAIR 12 M McCormack 8-12 .... J Weaver 7
8 40- WILLIE CONQUER 175 R Akehurst 8-12 .... A Clark 5
9 600- R DRAGON 297 M Madgwick 8-7 .... T Williams 9

7-4 Sergeyev, 11-4 Forzair, 5-1 Emerging Market, 8-1 Dissentor, Easy Dollar, Willie Conquer, 16-1 False Pretences, 20-1 others.

4.30 VARDEAN MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES
(3-Y-O: £3,216: 1m 1f 209yd) (9)

1 00- ELMER'S TUNE 131 R Hannon 9-0 .... R Hughes 2
2 40-5 EURO FORUM 14 G L Moore 9-0 .... R Perham 5
3 PADDY'S STORM R Flower 9-0 .... J D Smith (5) 4
4 42- RAASED 287 J Dunlop 9-0 .... W Carson 7
5 000- SHARE THE SECRET 164 B Hanbury 9-0 .... W Woods 6
6 6 YET AGAIN 54 (BF) B Hanbury 9-0 .... J Quinn 3
7 22- JUMAIRAH SUN 159 L Cumani 8-9 .... J Weaver 9
8 0-64 KINGS OF CANVEY IS 49 J White 8-9 .... S Drowne (5) 1
9 000- SHANUKE 150 J Moore 8-9 .... A Clark 8

4-6 Jumairah Sun, 2-1 Raased, 8-1 Euro Forum, 12-1 Elmer's Tune, 16-1 others.

5.00 SHEEPCOTE VALLEY HANDICAP
(£3,199: 1m 3f 196yd) (18)

1 03-0 CREDIT SQUEEZE 13 (F,G) R J Houghton 5-9-13 .... J Quinn 17
2 -166 BEAUTETE 21 (C,F,G) S Dow 4-9-12 .... G Hind 18
3 -020 ABLE CHOICE 10 (D,G) R Armstrong 5-9-12 .... J Weaver 10
4 1203 HATTAAFEH 17 (G) M Jarvis 4-9-9 .... W Woods 15
5 000- HILLSWICK 325 J King 4-9-5 .... R Hughes 9
6 06-6 GRAND SALT 10 M Haynes 4-9-5 .... W Carson 7
7 114- GRANBY BELL 170 (CD,G) P Hayward 4-9-5 .... Mark Denaro (7) 15
8 -510 FATHER DAN 12 (F,G) Miss G Kelleway 6-9-3 .... DOUBTFUL 1
9 -450 MR BROWNING 44 R Akehurst 4-9-3 .... A Clark 14
10 2561 HEAD TURNER 35 (D,G,S) C Whitman 7-9-2 .... Stephen Davies 6
11 240- MIRADOR 85J R Curtis 4-9-1 .... D Wright (3) 5
12 -026 LADY REEMA 21 Miss A Whitfield 4-8-11 .... R Painter (5) 2
13 /40 HOMEMAKER 19 (C,F,S) P Murphy 5-8-8 .... R Waterfield (7) 4
14 600- ROSSCOYNE 269 J Pitch-Heyes 5-8-7 .... D Biggs 13
15 /00- IVANHOE 252 J Arnold 4-8-6 .... B Rouse 8
16 10 MEGA TID 12 (G) B Pearce 3-8-6 .... S Sanders (3) 3
17 0460 RAGTIME SONG 40 (CD,F,G) A Moore 6-8-4 .... T Williams 11
18 5-00 DRABONMIST 3J (V) M Madgwick 5-8-2 .... N Adams 12

5-1 Granby Bell, 6-1 Mr Browning, 7-1 Head Turner, 10-1 Hattaafeh, Credit Squeeze, 12-1 others.

5.30 CHURCHILL SQUARE HANDICAP
(£3,588: 7f 214yd) (15)

1 5514 CANARY FALCON 40 (G) R O'Sullivan 4-10-0 .... W Woods 4
2 1224 CONFRONTER 46 (D,G,S) S Dow 6-9-12 .... R Hughes 3
3 354- PISTOL 197 (G) C Horgan 5-9-10 .... P Waldron 8
4 1062 JUST HARRY 10 (D,F,G) M Ryan 4-9-8 .... A Clark 13
5 00-0 DIA GEORGY 10 (D,F,G) R Guest 4-9-6 .... G Hind 9
6 -440 ASSIGNMENT 12 (C,F,G) J Pitch-Heyes 8-9-3 .... D Biggs 11
7 645- OLD SWINFORD 178 B Meehan 3-8-13 .... S Whitworth 15
8 000- DALCROSS 169 H Collingridge 4-8-13 .... J Quinn 12
9 000- JOBBER'S FIDDLE 206 (C,F) D ffrench Davis 3-8-7 .... N Adams 10
10 425- RUNIC SYMBOL 153 M Blanshard 4-8-5 .... Stephen Davies 1
11 8006 MY LIFETIME LADY 37 (F,S) K Ivory 4-8-5 .... C Scally (7) 7
12 00-3 OOZLEM 87 (B,CD,BF,F) R Flower 6-8-5 .... J D Smith (5) 14
13 -113 KINTWYN 21 (D,G) C C Elsey 5-8-3 .... J Weaver 5
14 0-60 FORBIDDEN GEM 63 S Woodman 4-7-12 .... T Williams 2
15 600 EVER FRIENDS 17 B McMath 3-7-10 .... D Wright (3) 6

9-2 Confronter, 5-1 Just Harry, 6-1 Kintwyn, 8-1 Runic Symbol, 10-1 Canary Falcon, 12-1 Pistol, Oozlem, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

BRIGHTON: Trainers: L Cumani, 20 winners from 54 runners, 37.0%; M Pipe, 4 from 13, 30.8%; M Ryan, 9 from 33, 27.3%; J White, 8 from 32, 25.0%; R Akehurst, 20 from 82, 24.4%; B Meehan, 9 from 38, 23.7%. Jockeys: R Painter, 3 winners from 9 rides, 33.3%; W Carson, 34 from 136, 25.0%; Stephen Davies, 7 from 34, 20.6%; J D Smith, 3 from 19, 15.8%; J Weaver, 3 from 21, 14.3%. Only qualifiers.

LEICESTER: Trainers: J Gosden, 18 winners from 73 runners, 24.7%; J Dunlop, 16 from 86, 18.6%; R Hannon, 26 from 149, 17.4%; G Wragg, 5 from 29, 17.2%; B Palling, 5 from 31, 16.1%; L Cumani, 5 from 34, 14.7%. Jockeys: Pat Eddery, 28 winners from 120 rides, 23.3%; L Dettori, 26 from 152, 17.1%; C Hodgson, 4 from 24, 16.7%; W R Swinburn, 11 from 72, 15.3%; T Quinn, 19 from 127, 15.0%; M Fenton, 3 from 23, 13.0%.

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JOHN HUGHES TROPHY H'CAP
2 miles 6 furlongs, Aintree 3.45pm, Live on BBC TV.

5 Dublin Flyer
7 Meleagris
9 Indian Tonic
9 Uranus Collonges
12 Western Legend
14 Have To Think
16 Sir Peter Lely
16 Smartie Express
16 What's In Orbit
20 Bibendum
20 Greenhill Raffles
20 Latent Talent
20 River Bounty
20 Toureen Prince
25 Buckboard Bounce
25 Channels Gate
25 Valeda II
40 Avonburn
40 Houghton
40 Some Day Soon
50 Man Of Mystery
50 Roxton Hill
66 Clares Own
66 Sirrah Jay
100 L'Uomo Piu
150 Absailor

Each way One Quarter the odds a place 1,2,3,4. Prices subject to fluctuation. Available up to 3.30pm. Tattersalls Rule 4(c) may apply. Non runner – no bet.

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Series of European triumphs at Augusta hurts home pride

Americans grow tired of foreign masters



David Miller views the gathering clamour in Georgia for a home champion to reclaim the Masters



HUGH ROUTLEDGE

Jacobsen, a favourite to repel the overseas challenge, practises at Augusta

It hurts. The home failure to win any but one of the past seven Masters tournaments — Fred Couples in 1992 — irks chauvinists among the American public and press. For heaven's sake, this is *their* Oscar that those pesky foreigners — Lyle, Faldo (twice), Woosnam, Langer and Olazábal — have so brazenly stolen in sequence.

Some indication of the gentle resentment is evident when *the leading article in a specialist* golf magazine this week begins: "Come off it, you smug pundits of the international press, your time is up. Who won the last Ryder Cup, President's Cup and World Cup? Our bedraggled US professionals, that's who. At the Masters, it will happen again!"

Will it? The harsh truth is that, for the first time, Americans failed to win one of the majors last year, the present titles being held by José Maria Olazábal (Masters), Ernie Els (US Open) and Nick Price (Open Championship and US PGA). Of the dozen or so favourites this week, six are European or South African and that excludes the holder, The equable, smiling Olazábal, who last year finally threw off the ten-year shadow of his senior Spanish partner, Severiano Ballesteros, is bothered by the aftermath of a toe operation and has missed the cut twice recently.

No wonder there was such a warm reception late on Tuesday evening when Arnold Palmer, who won the Masters four times between 1958 and 1964 and created the mass perception of the game in the United States, received a memorial plaque. A few of the old cries of "go for it, Arnie", could be heard. *There* was an American-style winner.

Yet among contemporary American players, there is a realism regarding overseas rivalry. While the US PGA Tour has, over the years, resisted the expansion of foreign participation, voiced by *Dean Beman — the closed-*shop union policy protecting "their" prize-money — the better players welcome the technical breadths introduced by the foreigners. Peter Jacobsen and Davis Love III, both fancied to halt the burglary this week, welcome the challenge.

"You have to respect them [in any field], whether it's golf, baseball or Texaco [in business]," Love, an eleventh-hour qualifier with his victory in New Orleans on Sunday, said yesterday. "I love having them here. They add a lot to our tour."

Jacobsen, whose maturity and humour set him apart from so many introspective prominent sportsmen, is equally enthusiastic: "Americans are excited [by the foreigners]," he said. "The reason the Europeans win is that you have to be creative at Augusta. We don't have other creative courses. This is the most celebrated of the four majors."

The Masters is like no other tournament, and not just because of the natural beauty of the Augusta National course but the beguiling treachery of its design, which presents a rink-like pace unequalled by any but the driest links course.

Augusta has a mere 45 bunkers, compared to, say, the 117 of St Andrews, but Jacobsen thinks the minor alteration this year to the 4th green has made it "absolutely terrifying".

So fast are the greens and so subtle the rough-free fairways that every prominent player starts equal. Experience is everything: patience the key. You cannot attack the course. Faldo has said that to get the line wrong from the tee is to add two or three clubs to your second shot. Of the dozen favourites, only Love, 30, and Els, 25, are under 35.

Jacobsen, who has never won a major, has the mentality to ride the imponderables. Both he and Love deny that hating to lose is a necessary ingredient that they lack. "I want to win as badly as the next guy," Jacobsen said, "but I want people to know I'm having fun. If I hated to lose, it might turn me into a kind of person I don't want to be."

Love, whose memorable putting against Rocca at The Belfry in 1993 helped the Americans to retain the Ryder Cup, acknowledges his own fluctuation. "You saw last week why I can win a major and why I can't!" he reflected. "It's hard for me to be aggressive. I'm more focused when I'm behind."

As a smug pundit who has been privileged and thrilled to witness the foreign invasion here, I shall be delighted if Jacobsen or Love, the personification of sportsmanship — or Pavin, Couples or Lehman — can give the crowd a home victory in a Ryder Cup year.

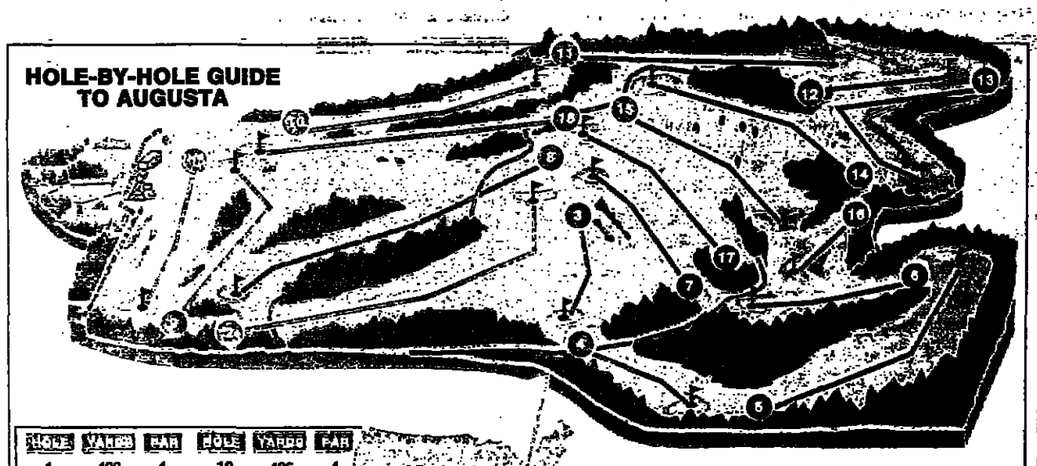
That once moribund event has latterly given a new edge to strokeplay tournaments. "We talk a lot more about 'winning goals'," Love admitted. The grip of the Masters has never been more intent or more open.

TEE-OFF TIMES

First round (all times BST), US unless stated

13.00: G Sarazen, B Nelson, S Snead
13.15: R Fehr, M Hanen
13.23: C Coody, G Brewer
13.31: S Hoch, F Nobilo (NZ)
13.39: W Casper, D Ford
13.47: J Sluman, D Waldorf
13.55: H Irwin, B Faxon
14.03: G Player (SA), * T Jackson
14.11: D Edwards, C Dennis
14.19: I Woosnam (GB), * G Yamamoto
14.35: S Lowery, J Morse
14.43: C Stadler, M A Jimenez (Sp)
14.51: M Sullivan, C Beck
14.59: L Wadkins, M Brooks
15.07: J Haas, W Grady (Aus)
15.15: F Zoeller, M Ozaki (Japan)
15.23: M Calcavecchia, J Maggert
15.31: A Lyle (GB), J Daly
15.47: J Cook, R Estes
15.55: M O'Meara, D Forsman
16.03: B Crenshaw, J Baker-Finch (Aus)
16.11: B Lietzke, B Glasson
16.19: P Azinger, D Frost (SA)
16.27: L Mize, * T Kuehne
16.35: J McGovern, D Pride
16.43: J Nicklaus, * L James (GB)
16.51: S Ballesteros (Sp), P Stewart
17.07: R Floyd, S Elkington (Aus)
17.15: K Perry, D Gilford (GB)
17.23: T Kite, V Singh (Fiji)
17.31: E Els (SA), L Janzen
17.39: G Norman (Aus), P Mickelson
17.47: T Lehman, D Love III
17.55: L Roberts, M McCumber
18.03: J M Olazabal (Sp), * T Woods
18.19: B Langer (Ger), C Strange
18.27: F Couples, M McNulty (Zimb)
18.35: M Springer, B Henninger
18.43: N Faldo (GB), P Jacobsen
18.51: A Palmer, T Nakajima (Japan)
18.59: N Price (Zim), C Pavin
19.07: T Watson, C Montgomerie (GB)
19.15: H Sutton, N Lancaster
19.23: B Bryant, J Huston
* denotes amateurs

HOLE-BY-HOLE GUIDE TO AUGUSTA



HOLE	YARDS	PAR	HOLE	YARDS	PAR
1	400	4	10	485	4
2	555	5	11	455	4
3	360	4	12	155	3
4	205	3	13	485	5
5	435	4	14	405	4
6	180	3	15	500	5
7	360	4	16	170	3
8	535	5	17	400	4
9	435	4	18	405	4
OUT	3,465	36	IN	3,460	36
			TOTAL	6,925	72

MASTERS RECORDS

Most victories: 6: Jack Nicklaus. 4: Arnold Palmer.
Oldest winner: 46, Jack Nicklaus (1986).
Youngest winner: 23, Severiano Ballesteros (1980).
Lowest round: 63, Nick Price (1986).
Lowest outward half: 30, Johnny Miller (1975), Greg Norman (1988).
Lowest inward half: 29, Mark Calcavecchia (1992).
Lowest total: 271, Jack Nicklaus (1965); Ray Floyd (1976).
Biggest winning margin: 9 shots, Jack Nicklaus (1965).
Successful defences: 1965-66, Jack Nicklaus; 1989-90, Nick Faldo.

Secret deal causes outrage in America's Cup trials

FROM BARRY PICKTHALL IN SAN DIEGO

THE deal that allowed all three of the United States' America's Cup defender boats to proceed to the final trials — invalidating the much-heralded race-off for a final spot between Dennis Conner's *Stars & Stripes* and Bill Koch's *Mighty Mary* — was signed in secret two hours before the boats began the showdown race, it was revealed yesterday.

The decision agreed between syndicate heads, Koch, Conner and John Marshall, who leads the all-conquering *Young America* team, and sanctioned by the San Diego Yacht Club, was even concealed from Leslie Egnot and her all-woman crew on *Mighty Mary*. She did not know until after she had pointlessly defeated Conner's *Stars & Stripes* by 5min 59sec.

"We went in thinking it was do-or-die," Egnot said. "When we finished, I have never seen such happy people. We excelled. It was a real disappointment when we heard."

If the hugs and kisses aboard *Mighty Mary* turned to disbelieving tears, it was nothing to the sense of outrage within the American press, however, who yesterday accused The San Diego Yacht Club of hoodwinking the world.

"Has the World Wrestling Federation taken over this event? This is a fix," Angus Phillips, of the *Washington Post*, commented.

"I'm lost for words — I would rather watch replacement baseball than this," Dave Nickerbocker, the veteran yachting writer from the New York newspaper, *News-Day*, said.

The San Diego Yacht Club insisted it had made the decision in the interests of "fair sailing". Wytie Cable, the chairman of the defence committee, said: "This is a good plan that enables all of us to put this recent rules controversy [surrounding the change of keel on Dennis Conner's yacht] behind us and get on with providing the best possible defence of the America's Cup."

The 145-year history of the America's Cup is steeped in ploys on the part of the *American defenders to keep* hold of the trophy they first won in the Solent off Cowes, but this late change of rules beats them all. Not only has it made a mockery of the three-month Citizen Cup defence trials so far, but it strikes at the integrity of the cup.

Ernie Taylor, who heads the challengers' committee, was outraged: "Nothing the San Diego YC does surprises me, but a lot of it amazes me. They have a totally different sense of sport to the rest of the world."

Even Larry Grunstien, the title sponsor to the defence trials, was at a loss. "This is the nuttiest thing I have ever heard," he said.

Behind the decision that gives *Young America* a two-point lead, *Mighty Mary* one point and has *Stars & Stripes* starting with a zero score, lies a need to appease sponsors of both Conner and Koch's teams with television exposure.

Not correct, politically

The Art of the Political Insult. *World Service, 5.15pm.*

"This is going to be a battle of wits," one MP warned another. "How brave of you to fight without weapons," came the reply. This is one of the more civilised of the examples of vituperation quoted by Michael Diamond in his anthology of invective. At the other end of the scale is the Rev Ian Paisley's attack on Mrs Thatcher — "a wicked, treacherous, lying woman!" on whose head he called down God's vengeance. Harold Wilson skewered Harold Macmillan with a single thrust when he said he had been very expensively educated at Eton — and Suez. Far less subtle were the insults hurled at his opponents by Paul Keating, the Australian Prime Minister.

Globe Theatre: Charley Tango. *Radio 4, 2.00pm.*

David Lan's play is the second to have been commissioned in a special season shared by Radio 4 and BBC World Service. It is powerful stuff, in its writing, performances and, most definitely, in Jeremy Mortimer's direction. It flits to and fro between two wars. One, a civil war, is being fought somewhere in southwest Africa. The other is a family conflict, fought on an English lawn. An African leader synthesises the play's message: "Wars are fought by grown-ups, but it's always the kids who suffer." Both wars have a victim in common — the young son (David Antrobus), whose warring parents (David Calder, Rowena Cooper) made him a casualty as they were trying to ease the suffering of others.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. 4.00am Bruno Brookes 6.30 Steve Wright 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Lisa I'Anson 2.00 Nicky Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier, including at 5.30-5.45 Newsbeat 7.00 Evening Session 9.00 Soundbite 10.00 Mark Radcliffe 12.00-4.00am Claire Sturgess

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 6.00am Martin Kelner 6.15 Pause for Thought 7.30 Wake to Wogan 9.15 Pause for Thought 9.30 Kari Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Fiona Armstrong 3.30 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 How Pleasant to Know Mr Lear 7.30 David Allan launches Radio 2's Country Season 9.00 Paul Jones 9.45 The Gospel Train 10.30 The Jamesons 12.05am Steve Madden 3.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The Breakfast Programme, including at 6.55 and 7.55 Racing Preview 8.35 The Magazine, including at 9.40 Film Review; 10.35 Euronews; 11.00 Gut Reaction 12.00 Midday with Mair, including at 12.34pm Moneycheck 2.05 Rugcos on Five, including at 2.35 Racing from Aintree; and at 3.15 Prime Minister's Question Time 4.00 John Inverdale Nationwide; including at 4.20 Racing from Aintree 7.00 News Extra, including at 7.20 sport 7.35 The Thursday Match: first leg of the European Cup Winners' Cup 10.05 News Talk 11.00 Night Extra, including at 11.45 The Financial World Tonight 12.05am Night Moves 2.05 Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am Samantha Meah, Sean Bolger 10.00 Scott Chisholm 1.00pm Anna Raeburn 3.00 Tommy Boyd 7.00 Maurice Dee, Carol McGiffen 10.00 Caesar 1.00am Al Kelly

WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST. 5.00am News 5.30 Europe (MW only: Off the Shelf 5.45 From Our Own Correspondent) 6.00 News 6.30 Learning World (MW only: Europe) 6.45 Telltale Tunes (MW only: Europe Today) 7.00 News 7.15 World Today 7.30 Sport 8.00 News 8.15 Farming 8.30 Network UK 9.00 News (MW only: News in German) 9.10 Words of Faith (MW only: News in German) 9.15 Composer 9.45 Books 10.00 News 10.15 Sport 11.00 News 11.30 BBC English 11.45 Off the Shelf Noon News 12.30pm Soul 1.00 News (MW only: News in German) 1.15 Britain 1.30 Assignment 2.00 News 2.05 Outlook 3.30 Multitrack 4.00 News 4.05 Sport 4.15 BBC English 4.30 Network UK (MW only: News in German) 5.00 News 5.15 The Art of the Political Insult: Sea Choice 5.45 Faith Estate 6.00 6.15 Do You Know? 6.30 World Today (MW only: News in German) 6.45 Sport (MW only: News in German) 7.00 News 7.30 Assignment 8.00 News 9.00 Europe 9.30 Outlook 9.55 Words of Faith 10.00 News 10.15 Britain 10.30 Meridian 11.00 News 11.30 World Today 11.45 Health Midnight News 12.10am Topical 12.15 Megamix 12.45 Sport 1.00 Newsdesk 1.30 On the Move 1.45 Britain 2.00 News Extra Political Insult 2.45 Global 3.00 Newsday 3.30 Drama 4.00 News 4.15 Sport 4.30 Faith

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey 9.00 Henry Kelly 12.00 Susannah Simons 2.00pm Lunchtime Concerto 3.00 Jamie Crick 6.00 Classic Reports 7.00 The Tape Guide 8.00 Evening Concert 10.00 Michael Maggin 1.00am Mark Griffith

VIRGIN

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono 9.00 Richard Skinner, 12.00 Graham Dene 4.00pm Nick Abbot 7.30 Paul Coyle 10.00 Jersey Lee Grace 2.00-6.00am Robin Banks

RADIO 3

6.30am Open University: Is There a Text in This Programme? Meaning and Interpretation 6.55 Weather 7.00 On Air: Chopin (Nocturne in E minor, Op 72 No 1); Mozart (Symphony No 4 in E, Op 5); [illegible]; Dvorak (Slavonic Dance in E minor, Op 72 No 2); Lord Clinton talks to Hugh Cox about Technics; (Sinfonia: L'Inganno Felice); 7.45 Hotel: Choral Hymns from the Rig Veda); Borodin (Overture: Prince Igor); 8.15 Mendelssohn (Capriccio in E minor); Nielsen (Suite: Aladdin) 8.00 **Composer of the Week:** Haydn in England: Symphony No 100 in G, Military; London Trio No 1 in C; Piano Sonata in C (Andras Schiff) (r) 10.00 **Musical Encounters:** Bach (Duet No 3 in G); 10.04 *Artists of the Week:* BBC Symphony Chorus. Rütti (O magnum mysterium: under Stephen Jackson); 10.10 Handel (Suite No 2 in F: Martin Souter, harpsichord); Bernard Stevens (Symphony No 2); 10.50 Rachmaninov (Trio élégiaque in G minor: Belkeva Sisters); Delius (Sea Drift); 11.30 Spohr (Duet in G, Op 67); Mozart (Divertimento in B flat: Orpheus Ensemble) 12.00 **Ensemble:** York Piano Trio performs Mozart (Piano Trio in E flat); Beethoven (Piano Trio in E flat). Presented by Jill Anderson (r) 1.00pm **Opera Matinée:** Telemann's *Orpheus*. First performed in 1726. Sung in German, French and Italian. Janet Williams, soprano; Roman Trekel, baritone; Academy of Early Music, Berlin, under René Jacob 3.50 **Allan:** Symphony, Op 39 (Hamish Milne) (r)

4.25 **The BBC Orchestras:** BBC Symphony Orchestra under [illegible] (Tchaikovsky: Stravinsky (Ode); [illegible]; Lord Clinton talks to Hugh Cox about Technics; 5.15 **In Tune:** Handel (Il primo amor, Ariodante, Act 1); 6.15 Beethoven (Piano Sonata in E minor, Op 90); 7.00 Howard Ferguson (Partita, Op 5, movements 3 and 4) 7.30 **Belfast Nights:** Ulster Orchestra under Nicholas Braithwaite; Bernadette Greevy, mezzo; Malcolm Arnold (Comedy Overture: Beckus the Dandipratt); Elgar (Sea Pictures); Stanford (Symphony No 5 in D: L'allegro ed il penseroso) 8.55 **Brown's Musical Belfast:** Roy Johnston looks at the crusading 1920s in Belfast 9.25 **Tenebrae Responses:** The poet Michael Longley introduces music written during the past six years by some of the younger generation of Northern Irish composers. Kevin O'Connell (Tenebrae); Ian Wilson (Big); Philip Flood (Spindle and Shuttle); Michael Alcorn (Making a Song and a Dance ...) 10.15 **Joan Trimble:** The County Mayo; Three Diversions. 10.45 **Night Waves in Belfast:** Roisin McAuley chairs a discussion on whether the ceasefire will produce a new kind of writing about Belfast 11.30-12.30am **Voices:** Die Knaben Wunderhorn. Iain Burnside presents a programme of songs from Mahler's song-cycle (r)

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing, incl Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today, incl 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 7.25, 8.25 Sport 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58 Weather 9.00 **News** 9.05 **The Moral Maze:** Michael Buerk, *Times* columnist Janet Daley, Rabbi Hugo Gryn, Edward Pearce and Dr David Starkey investigate the moral questions behind the news 10.00-10.30 **News; Capital Gains** (FM only): First of a four-part drama series by Colin Johnson 10.00 **Daily Service** (LW only) 10.15 **A Spiritual Anthology** (LW only): The Quiet Mind 10.30 **Woman's Hour:** Jenni Murray talks to the biographer Victoria Glendinning about her first novel, *Electricity*. Incl 11.00 News 11.30 From Our Own Correspondent 12.00 **News; You and Yours,** with Tesneem Sidiqi 12.25pm **Questions of Taste** (r) 12.55 Weather 1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke 1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast 2.00 **News; Globe Theatre 95:** Charley Tango. See Choice 3.00 **News; The Afternoon Shift,** with Daire Brehan 4.00 **News** 4.05 **Kaleidoscope:** Paul Allen reviews *An Awfully Big Adventure*, a new film starring Alan Rickman and Hugh Grant 4.45 **Short Story: The Magic Cloak,** by Brian Thompson 5.00 PM, with Chris Lowe and Linda Lewis 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather 6.00 **Six O'Clock News** 6.30 **Paradise Lost in Space:** Tony Robinson and David Haig star in Colin Swash's comedy (5/6) 7.00 **News** 7.05 **The Archers** 7.20 **Soundtrack:** *Me and My Pal*, Eavesdrop on confessions between golfer Nick Price and his caddie 8.00 **Analysis:** Murder Blue Water, In the last of the series, Peter Kellner examines splits within the Conservative Party 8.45 **Stranger than Fiction:** The novelist Rachel Billington considers the Gospel accounts of the life and death of Jesus (5/6) 9.00 **Does He Take Sugar?** Magazine for listeners with disabilities 9.30 **Kaleidoscope** (r) 9.59 Weather 10.00 **The World Tonight,** with Robin Lustig 10.45 **Book at Bedtime: Mr Ollis** by Ernest Raymond. Read by Ian Holm. (4/10) (r) 11.00 **Master and Commander:** First of a six-part dramatisation by Roger Danz of Patrick O'Brian's Napoleonic seafaring adventure 11.30-12.00 **Postcard from Gotham** (FM only) (r) 11.30-11.45 **Lives in Science** (LW only): Bill Williamson on the importance of family photographs (r) 11.45-12.00 **Today in Parliament** (LW only) 12.00-12.43am **News** incl 12.27 Weather 12.33 Shipping 12.43 As World Service (LW)

RADIO 1: FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2: FM-88-90.2. RADIO 3: FM-90.2-92.4. RADIO 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6; LW 198. RADIO 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LONDON RADIO: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. CAPITAL: 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. GLR: FM 94.9. WORLD SERVICE: MW 648kHz/463m; LW 198kHz (12.45am-5.55am). CLASSIC FM: FM-100-102. VIRGIN: MW-1215, 1197, 1242 kHz. TALK RADIO: MW 1089, 1053kHz. Listings compiled by Peter Dear, Gillian Manby



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12 Els	25 Love	6 Els
12 Norman	25 Olazabal	6 Norman
14 Couples	25 Mickelson	7 Price
14 Pavin	25 Woosnam	8 Langer
14 Price	33 Ballesteros	11 Montgom'e
16 Langer	33 Mize	14 Olazabal
20 Montgom'e	33 Lehman	14 Woosnam

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FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

European Cup Winners' Cup
Semi-finals, first leg
Arsenal v Sampdoria (8.0) .....
Real Zaragoza v Chelsea (8.15) .....

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Hendon v St Albans. First division: Heybridge Swifts v Abingdon Town. Third division: Epsom and Ewell v Horsham; Kingsbury v Fladbeuli Heath.
BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Southern division: Fisher '93 v Waterlooville; Burnham v Witney
MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Langford v Wingate and Finchley, Shillington v Aylesey Town
SKOL MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Shirley v Northfield, West Midland Fire Service v Alvechurch Villa.
INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: West Midlands Police v Bolehall Swifts.
PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division (7.0 unless stated): Blackburn v Leeds (at Wigan Athletic), Stoke v Wolverhampton Tranmere v Liverpool; Everton v Bolton. Second division: Barnsley v Newcastle, Bradford v Mansfield; Burnley v Sheffield Wednesday (7.15); Oldham v Grimsby
CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Penrith v Bootle.
JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Heston v Halstead
JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Totton v Gosport
JEWSON SOUTH WESTERN LEAGUE CUP: Semi-final: Bodmin v Wadebridge
UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Langney Sports v Burgess Hill; Portfield v Peacehaven/Telscombe.
WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Crockenhill v Folkestone Invicta, Ramsgate v Furness
ENGLISH SCHOOLS UNDER-19 TROPHY: Semi-final: Winstanley College, Wigan v Preston College (Burscough FC, 7.0).

RUGBY LEAGUE

Stones Bitter Championship
Second division
Bramley v Leigh (6.30) .....

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: Churchill Insurance women's world indoor championship (Cumbernauld); Manchester Unity national indoor championships (Melton Mowbray).
SNOOKER: British Open (Plymouth)

Answers from page 39

HEORTOLOGY
(c) The science or study of the origin, meaning, growth, and history of the religious feasts and seasons of the Christian year, from the Greek *heórtē* a feast + *logos* study. "Recalling too how the recent heortologist Dr Kellner considers that the mention of the feast in the Irish calendars does not prove the celebration of the feast."

IXODID
(a) A tick of the family Ixodidae, the modern Latin family from the generic *Ixodes*, from the Greek *ixōdēs* sticky. "The Ixodides possess a soft-skinned opisthosoma capable of great distension necessary for the alternate gorging and fasting that is inseparable from the life of a tick."

LOPOLITH
(c) A large intrusive mass similar to a laccolith but having the base centrally sunken, geological jargon. "Professor John Barrell has suggested that as igneous forms they deserve a distinct name. The name proposed by the writer is lopolith (from [Greek] *lopas*, a basin, a flat earthen dish, and *lithos*, a stone)."

MIZRACH
(a) The east, the direction of Jerusalem, a sacred picture facing east, the Judaic practice of turning towards Jerusalem in prayer, from the Hebrew *mizrāh* east + *zārah* to rise. James Joyce, *Ulysses*, 1922: "His gaze turned in the direction of Mizrach, the east."

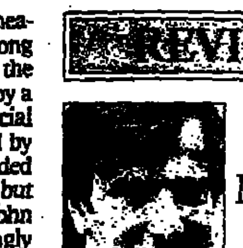
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All the same, it was highly entertaining

REVIEW



Matthew Bond

Remember *Kavanagh QC* and how we groaned? Same old courtroom plots, same old characters straight out of central casting, same old glossy production values. That's the one — hugely popular and a critical success to boot.

Well, for *Kavanagh QC* read **The Turnaround** (ITV). Same old private detective storylines, same familiar cast and, just like *Kavanagh*, same old problems with the 9pm watershed if the producers continue to cram 90 minutes of adult drama into the pre-*News at Ten* slot. And if it doesn't also turn out to be hugely popular and a critical success to boot, I'll eat my video tapes.

From its gripping start to its Tarantino-like climax, *The Turnaround* was very good indeed. Beautifully made, nicely acted and with more than enough plot to fill an hour and a half, last night's pilot episode should have no difficulty convincing the network controller that a few more might be in order. But not too many, mind — after all, we wouldn't want to spoil a good thing.

Success arrived despite familiarity of truly towering proportions, providing further proof that if you rework an old formula well enough, it really doesn't matter. A series about a moody private detective with problems at home and problems at work — now there's original. Nick Sharman (Clive Owen) matched the Identikit exactly. A man with an ex-wife and an ex-police career, he now scrapes a living as a private detective, assisted by a beaten-up BMW, a secretary with a shoplifting habit and a very fat cat. Oh, did I mention that he has a very beautiful girlfriend (Rowena King)? Sorry, but you'd probably guessed that.

As Sharman, Owen combined male magnetism with brute insensitivity in sufficiently equal measures to attract a following among both sexes. His pursuit of the missing money, stashed away by a crooked and now dead financial adviser, was aided and abetted by a strong cast, including a bearded Bill Paterson as the menacing but *moribund* client and John Salthouse as Sharman's obligingly bent police chum, the improbably monikered DI Robber.

Also excellent was Rowena King, although she spent so much time establishing what Fiona wasn't (she wasn't a policewoman, a strippagram or a private detective) that when she eventually turned round to announce that she also wasn't our hero's girlfriend any more, I wasn't a bit surprised.

While *The Turnaround* looked and sounded great, the plot did occasionally move along at alarming speed. "They were obviously looking for the money Kellerman stole from his investors," said Sharman, after, ooh, all of three minutes' investigative work. "Do you know that?" said a worried-looking Paterson. It came as a bit of a surprise to me too. But never mind, I'm already looking forward to more.

I am also looking forward to more **Seven Wonders of the World** (BBC 2), despite a certain familiarity that is slithering into view after three programmes. What is it about the snail that seems to have the scientific community so obsessed? Last night, Stephen Jay Gould, a professor of geology and zoology at Harvard, chose *diversity* as his seventh wonder. Consider, he said, musical variation or the diversity of peoples. It was awe-inspiring stuff. But what he really meant, as quickly became clear, was the diversity of the West Indian land snail, his favourite organism.

This came only a week after Steve Jones dedicated one wonder and half his programme to the snail, and a fortnight after Miriam Rothschild chose the life cycle of a parasitic worm which spends a quarter of its mixed-up life in, yes you've guessed it, a snail, as one of hers.

Perhaps the answer is to call further upon the services of Sue Lawley, who already lends a certain *Desert Island* air with her introductions: "You already have the Bible, Shakespeare and the entire family of Helicidae . . ." It would save a lot of time.

It might also be a good idea to have Lawley on hand throughout. A little of her hallmark discipline would not go amiss in a programme that occasionally indulges its distinguished subjects rather too far. "No, I'm sorry Stephen, deep time and ceaseless motion are two wonders, not one" or "not Anamolcaris again, aren't these Cambrian fossil organisms a little boring?"

These reservations apart, it is refreshing to see articulate scientists getting the opportunity to hold forth with ideas and thoughts that are both challenging and inspiring. But please, no more molluscs.

After I had thus exercised my mind on BBC 2, Channel 4 offered the opportunity to exercise my body with the return of **The Great Outdoors**, a sort of grown-up version of *Blue Peter*. It's the type of programme you find yourself watching wearing a fleece or practising your bowlines.

Last night's opening instalment kicked off with a Noakesian cocktail of gliding and rock-climbing and a walk around Arthur Ransome's Lake District that was actually more Valerie Singleton. The programme rattled along with considerable pace, so much so that it can do little more than whet the appetite for fresh air. But it does provide back-up information for those for whom the idea of a quiet weekend in has somehow lost its appeal. Ah yes, that heady mix of getting cold, wet and miserable and missing *The New Adventures of Superman* all in one go. I, for one, prefer to take my outdoor pleasures vicariously — so I'll be tuning in each week. Wearing my fleece, of course.

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (96544)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (31778341)

9.05 Kilroy (s) (7739916)

10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1826544) **10.05 EastEnders — The Early Days** (r). (Ceefax) (2538439)

10.35 Good Morning with Anne and Nick. Weekday magazine series (s) (8193186)

12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (6277709) **12.05 Pebble Mill** (s) (2107438) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (69396612)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (68612) **1.30 Neighbours.** (Ceefax) (s) (86025070)

1.50 Going for Gold. The perspicacious Henry Kelly with another round of the general knowledge quiz with European contestants (s) (86038186)

2.15 Racing from Aintree. The first day of the Grand National meeting. Live coverage of the **2.35, 3.10** and **3.45** races. The **4.20** is on BBC2 (s) (558506)

3.55 NEW **Why Did the Chicken?** Game show (s) (2056322) **4.05 Speed Racer.** A new series about a teenage racing driver. (Ceefax) (1670273) **4.30 Ant and Dec Show.** A fast-moving *new entertainment series.* (Ceefax) (3330254)

4.55 Newsround (4669070) **5.05 The Machine Gunners.** Drama serial set on Tyneside during the Second World War (r). (Ceefax) (4167099)

5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (324728)

6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (693)

6.30 Regional news magazines (273)

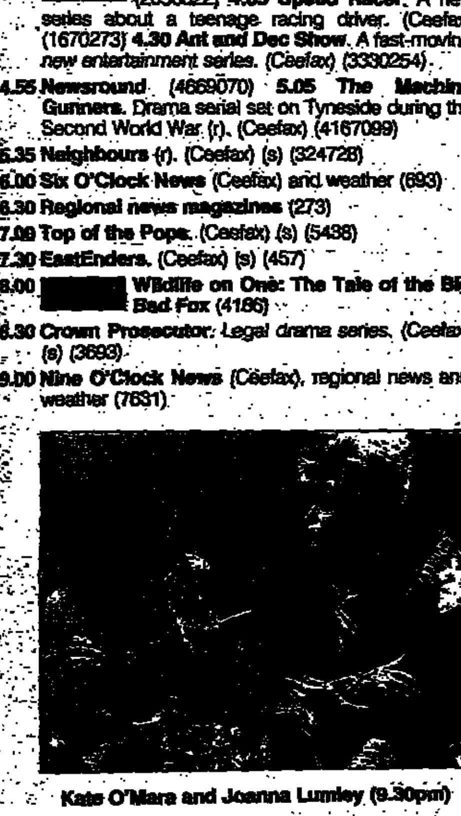
7.00 Top of the Pops. (Ceefax) (s) (5438)

7.30 EastEnders. (Ceefax) (s) (457)

8.00 Wildlife on One: The Tale of the Big Bad Fox (4186)

8.30 Crown Prosecutor. *Legal drama series.* (Ceefax) (s) (3693)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (7631)



Kate O'Mara and Joanna Lumley (9.30pm)

9.30 Absolutely Fabulous. Patsy and Edina are preparing for a *New Year Eve's* party when *news comes of the imminent* arrival of Patsy's long-lost sister who has a reputation even worse than Patsy's. Starring Jennifer Sanders, Joanna Lumley and Kate O'Mara. (Ceefax) (s) (11102)

10.00 Men Behaving Badly. Sit-com *starring* Martin Clunes and Neil Morrissey (r). (Ceefax) (s) (71051)

10.30 Golf — US Masters. Live first round coverage from Augusta National (33235) **Wales:** The Slate (33235) 11.30 Golf (45761) 12.00 Sportsnight Special (8419945) 12.40-2.05am Film: Young Billy Young (80332228)

11.30 Sportsnight Special. Highlights of the European Cup Winners' Cup first leg match between Real Zaragoza and Chelsea (809568)

12.10am FILM: Young Billy Young (1969) starring Robert *Mitchum*, Angie Dickinson and Robert Walker. Western drama about a marshal and his deputy on the trail of the killer of the marshal's son. Directed by Burt Kennedy (1609723) **1.35am Weather** (8820378)

BBC2

6.20 Open University

8.00 Breakfast News. (Ceefax and signing) (7008438)

8.15 Westminster On-Line with Andrew Neil (s) (7561709)

9.00 Canna — the Otter. A wildlife drama (r) (22457)

10.00 Playdays (r) (s) (4433065)

10.25 FILM: Mr Skeffington *(1944, b/w) starring* Bette Davis and Claude Rains. A melodrama, spread over a period of years from 1914. Directed by Vincent Sherman (15690964)

12.30 Working Lunch (27728)

1.00 The Little Polar Bear. Animation (85383983) **1.05 *Juniper Jungle*** (r) (73748322)

1.15 FILM: *The Trip To Bountiful* (1985). A drama starring Geraldine Page in an Oscar-winning role, directed by Peter Masterton (72414506)

3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather followed by **Westminster with Nick Ross** (s) (1674254)

3.50 News (Ceefax) and weather (2055693)

4.00 Racing from Aintree continued from BBC1. Live *coverage of the 4.20 race* (s) (2532709)

4.45 Today's the Day (s) (723984)

5.15 The Oprah Winfrey Show. (Ceefax) (s) (2734524)

6.00 Quantum Leap (r). (Ceefax) (s) (202964)

6.45 Close Up (805419)

7.00 Waiting for God (r). (Ceefax) (s) (6780)

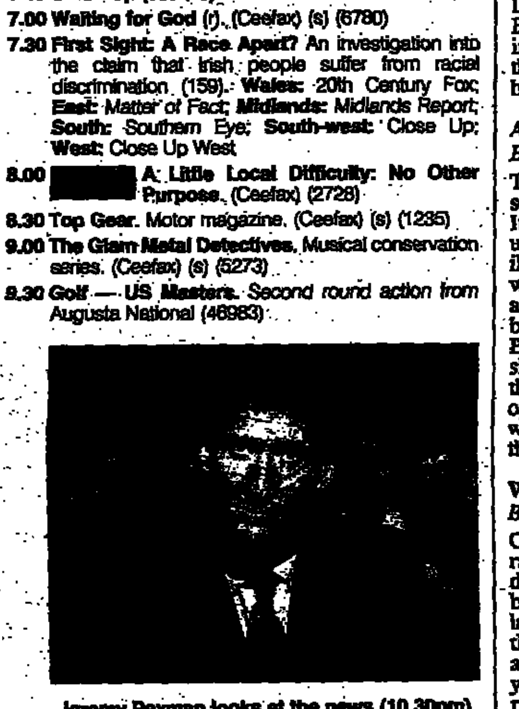
7.30 First Sight: A Race Apart? An investigation into the claim that Irish people suffer from racial discrimination (159). **Wales:** 20th Century Fox; **East:** *Matter of Fact;* **Midlands:** Midlands Report; **South:** Southern Eye; **South-west:** Close Up; **West:** Close Up West

8.00 A Little Local Difficulty: No Other Purpose. (Ceefax) (2728)

8.30 Top Gear. Motor magazine. (Ceefax) (s) (1235)

9.00 The Glam Metal Detectives. Musical conservation series. (Ceefax) (s) (5273)

9.30 Golf — US Masters. *Second round action from* Augusta National (46983)



Jeremy Paxman looks at the news (10.30pm)

10.30 Newsnight. (Ceefax) (477964)

11.15 Virtually Las Vegas. Architects Robert Venturi and Denise Scott-Brown *return to America's fastest-growing city for the first time in 20 years* (s) (362728)

11.55 Weather (702612) **12.00 Open View** (4387571)

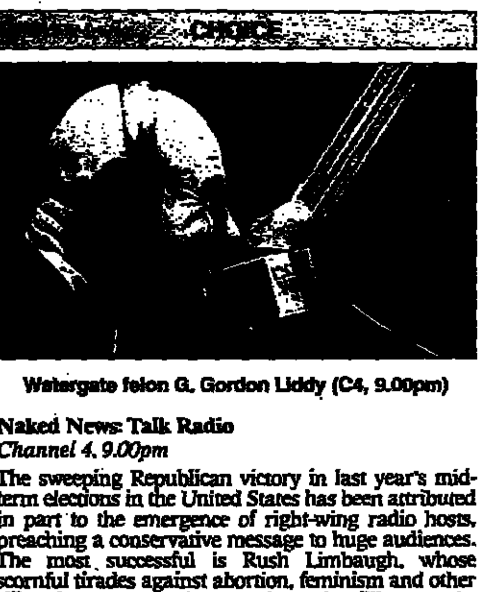
12.05am Power and Vision: The West and the Rest (3672533)

12.30 The Record. The day in Parliament (s) (14213). Ends at **1.00**

5.00-5.30 BBC Select: DOH Special (r) (81129)

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CHOICE



Watergate felon G. Gordon Liddy (C4, 9.00pm)

Naked News: Talk Radio
Channel 4, 9.00pm

The sweeping Republican victory in last year's mid-term elections in the United States has been attributed in part to the emergence of right-wing radio hosts, preaching a conservative message to huge audiences. The most successful is Rush Limbaugh, whose scornful tirades against abortion, feminism and other "liberal" causes *reach more than 20 million people.* Better known to audiences here are two of Limbaugh's ideological cohorts, the Watergate felon G. Gordon Liddy and the failed presidential candidate, Pat Buchanan. *Perhaps the film overestimates their* influence on American opinion, for if the clips from their shows are any guide they seem to arouse as much hostility from their listeners as they do support.

A Little Local Difficulty: No Other Purpose
BBC2, 8.00pm

The Browning automatic pistol, says a forensic scientist, is a lightweight, concealable killing machine. It has no other purpose. Carlo Gebler's evocative film uses the history of one particular Browning to *illuminate the conflict* in Northern Ireland. Three widows talk openly about the death of their husbands, all shot by the same gun. It was used by killers from both paramilitary groups. Two of the victims were Protestants, a *UDR man murdered in* a Belfast shopping mall and a police constable in the RUC. The third was killed by Michael Stone, the gunman who opened fire on mourners at Milltown Cemetery. The women describe their grief, their loneliness and how they have tried to rebuild their lives.

Wildlife On One: The Tale of the Big Bad Fox
BBC1, 8.00pm

Children's stories tend to cast the fox as villain and the rabbit as victim. Even Sir David Attenborough cannot deny that the rabbit often ends up as the fox's breakfast, lunch and dinner. But the film, which launches a new series of *Wildlife On One*, suggests that we should not feel too sorry for the rabbit. The argument is that while foxes produce only one litter a year, and half the cubs die, rabbits breed like, well, rabbits. So despite the worst that foxes can do, the rabbit population is soaring. Whether you buy the *argument or not, the footage is magnificent.* The product of a year of filming in the Mendip Hills, it follows the two species through the cycle of mating, multiplying and struggling to survive.

Food File
Channel 4, 8.30pm

Much promoted by professional athletes, so-called fitness foods and drinks may be just a lucrative way of selling sugar and water. The message of an *investigation into power* snacks and isotonic drinks is that most of us might just as well get our carbohydrates from bread and potatoes, while an effective sports drink can be put together by mixing *fruit juice and water. Do not* expect many Lucozade advertisements during future editions of *Food File.* The programme also continues the campaign to save small shops by visiting Britain's oldest fishmonger, and there is a *topical item on the welfare of farm* animals and how measures can be taken to protect them against stress and suffering. **Peter Waymark**

CARLTON

6.00 GMTV (4457790)

9.25 Chain Letters. Word game with Ted Robbins (s) (2599896) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and *weather* (1083344)

10.00 The Time. . . the Place (s) (4188983)

10.35 This Morning (76557490) **12.20pm London Today** (Teletext) and weather (6266693)

12.30 News (Teletext) and weather (9160438) **12.55 Emmerdale** (r). (Teletext) (9178457) **1.25 Home and Away** *(Teletext)* (73639167)

1.55 Vanessa. *Vanessa Feltz talks to people about the* problems of loving a criminal. (Teletext) (s) (65731780) **2.25 A Country Practice** (s) (58337983) **2.50 Gardeners' Diary.** Seasonal advice from John Ravenscroft (1342612)

3.20 ITN News headlines (Teletext) (4415815) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (4414186)

3.30 The Riddlers (r) (8623983) **3.40 Wizadora** (r) (s) (2053235) **3.50 Garfield and Friends** (r) (6256693) **4.15 Animaniacs** (Teletext) (s) (7557051) **4.40 Stanley's Dragon** (r). *(Teletext)* (s) (7543815)

5.10 After 5 with Caron Keating (Teletext) (4151438)

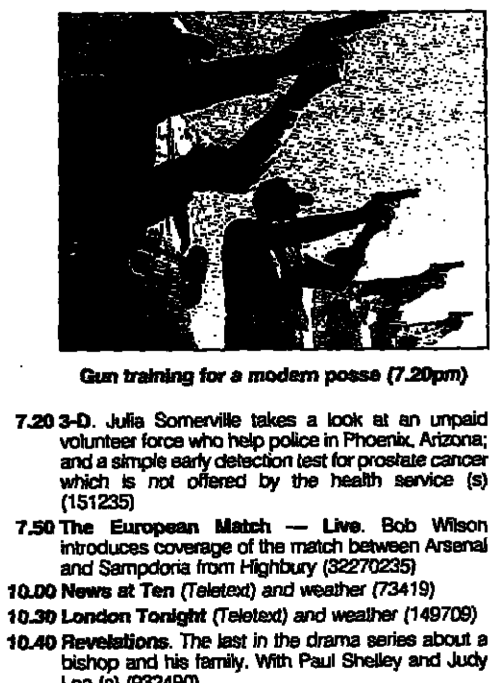
5.40 News *(Teletext) and weather* (658322)

5.55 Your Shout. Viewers' opinions (562032)

6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (761)

6.30 London Tonight with Alastair Stewart and Fiona Foster. (Teletext) (541709)

6.50 Emmerdale. The police come close to discovering Robert; while Chris sabotages Kathy's romantic evening. (Teletext) (586983)



Gun training for a modern posse (7.20pm)

7.20 3-D. Julia Somerville takes a look at an unpaid volunteer force who help police in Phoenix, Arizona; and a simple early detection test for prostate cancer which is not offered by the health service (s) (151235)

7.50 The European Match — Live. Bob Wilson introduces coverage of the match between Arsenal and Sampdoria from Highbury (32270235)

10.00 News at Ten *(Teletext) and weather* (73419)

10.30 London Tonight *(Teletext) and weather* (149709)

10.40 Revelations. The last in the drama series about a bishop and his family. With Paul Shelley and Judy Loe (s) (932490)

11.10 NEW **Carlton Sport — World League of American Football.** Alton Byrd *previews the new season from the London* Monarchs' training camp in Atlanta (595964)

11.40 The Powers That Be. Comedy series starring John Forsythe as an affable American senator with a pushy family (855952)

12.15am Beyond Reality. JJ is transported back to 1943 (r) (59587)

12.45 The Little Picture Show (r) (382200)

1.45 The Beat (r) (s) (1429113)

2.40 The Album Show (r) (s)(4136397)

3.35 America's Top Ten (r) (s) (93977804)

4.00 Sport AM (r) (42620)

5.00 Vanessa (r). (Teletext) (s) (14705)

5.30 ITN Morning News (57571). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35 Spiff and Hercules. Cat and dog cartoon series (7854235)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (58235)

9.00 Spacecats Animated adventures (r) (83896)

9.30 California Dreams. A return of the series about an *American high school rock band* (6292709)

9.55 Gamesmaster. *Computer games magazine* (r) (6200728) **10.25 Batman.** The Gotham City hero tackles the evil Riddler (3988970) **10.55 Tintin** Animated adventures of Hergé's hero (r) (5440419) ***11.20 Pugwall's Summer*** (r) (5184254) ***11.50*** **Terrytoons** Classic cartoons (8822167)

12.00 House To House. Maya Even with another edition of the political magazine (63032)

12.30 Sesame Street. Pre-school learning series (49693)

1.30 The Wonderful Wizard of Oz (r) (s) (65754631)

1.55 FILM: State Fair (1945) starring Jeanne Crain, Dana Andrews and Dick Haymes. A lively musical *about a family visiting the Iowa State Fair.* Directed by Walter Lang (76346588)

3.50 Pete Smith Specialty. A 1949 short about an angler (2040761)

4.00 The Great Outdoors (r). (Teletext) (s) (254)

4.30 Fifteen-To-One. (Teletext) (s) (438)

5.00 Ricki Lake. A discussion on whether teenagers *should divorce their parents.* (Teletext) (s) (5984047)

5.45 Voyage To Next. Mother Earth and Father Time analyse mankind. With the voices of Maureen Stapleton and Dizzy Gillespie (655235)

6.00 The Cosby Show. American domestic comedy (r). (Teletext) (631)

6.30 Saved By The Bell: The College Years. Campus comedy. (Teletext) (983)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (426902)

7.50 The Slot. Viewers' video soapbox (477070)

8.00 Crash Course. A look at the progress of three people on an intensive driving course (r). (Teletext) (7896)



Food for thought with Amanda Ursell (8.30pm)

8.30 Food File. (Teletext) (s) (9631)

9.00 Naked News: Talk Radio. (Teletext) (6877)

10.00 FILM: When You Remember Me (1990) *starring* Fred Savage. A made-for-television drama about a young muscular dystrophy sufferer who goes to court to protect his civil rights as a patient. Directed by Henry Winer. *(Teletext)* (s) (502235)

11.55 The Kids In the Hall. A *showcase* for Canadian comedians (r). (Teletext) (s) (197506)

12.25am Dispatches (r). (Teletext) (8332842)

1.10 Shahira. The story of an Egyptian anthropologist who discovers a nomadic tribe on the verge of extinction (r) (8466282)

2.10 *FILM: Naughty But Nice* (1939, b/w). *A musical starring Dick Powell as a music professor looking for* a publisher for his symphony. With Ann Sheridan, Gale Page and Ronald Reagan. Directed by Ray Enright (683945). Ends at ***3.50***

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Anglia News (1083344) 12.20pm-12.30 Anglia News (6266693) 1.55 The Young Doctors (8802525) 2.50-3.20 High Road (1342612) 3.25-3.30 Anglia News and Weather (4414186) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (4151438) 6.25-6.50 Anglia Weather followed by Anglia News (922490) 10.30 Anglia News (149709) 10.40 Cover Story (932490) 11.10 Side Effects (807382) 12.05am The Powers That Be (3680552) 12.35 Amsterdamned (783282) 2.30 The Beat (4218571) 3.25 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (43800216) 3.50 Quiz Night (37287552) 4.15 Donahue (4524026) 5.05 Vanessa (6112282)

CENTRAL
As London except: 9.55-10.00 Central News (1083344) 12.20pm-12.30 Central News and Weather (6266693) 1.55 A Country Practice (88020525) 2.50-3.20 Take the High Road (1342612) 3.25-3.30 Central News (4414186) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (4151438) 6.25-6.45 Central News and Weather (948438) 10.30 Central News and Weather (149709) 10.40 Crime Stalker (110032) 11.10 Revelations (193780) 12.10am The Hidden Room (1039723) 4.00 Jobfinder (5485888) 5.20 Asian Eye (7318620)

GRANADA
As London except: 12.20pm-12.30 Granada News (6266693) 12.55-1.25 Shortland Street (9178457) 1.25 Home and Away (73639322) 1.50 Vanessa (65749709) 2.20 Love at First Sight (58329964) 2.50-3.20 Emmerdale (1342612) 3.25-3.30 Granada News (4414186) 5.10-5.40 A Country Practice (4151438) 6.25 Granada Tonight (922490) 6.50-7.20 *Emmerdale* (586983) 10.30 Granada News (149709) 10.40 Revelations (932490) 11.40 The Powers That Be (855952) 12.15am Beyond Reality (59587) 12.45 The Little Picture Show (382200) 1.45 The Beat (1429113) 2.40 The Album Show (4136397) 3.35 America's Top Ten (93977804) 4.00 Sport AM (42620) 5.00 Vanessa (14705)

HTV WEST
As London except: 9.55-10.00 HTV West Headlines (1083344) 12.20pm-12.30 HTV West News and Weather (6266693) 2.25 Gardening Time (58328235) 2.55-3.20 Shortland Street (7505815) 3.25-3.30 HTV West Headlines (4414186) 5.10-5.40 A Country Practice (4151438) 6.30-6.50 HTV West News (541709) 10.30 HTV West Headlines and Weather (149709) 10.40 The Country Show (932490) 11.10 The West This Week (595964) 11.40 Magnum (654870)

HTV WALES
As HTV WEST except: 6.30-6.50 Wales Tonight (541709) 10.30 HTV Wales News and Weather (149709) 10.40 *The Infirmary* (932490) 11.10-11.40 Grass Roots (595964)

MERIDIAN
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (88020525) 2.50-3.20 Shortland Street (1342612) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (4151438) 6.00 Meridian Tonight (952631) 6.20-6.50 Grass Roots (835490) 10.40 The Thief Who Came to Dinner (47583709) 12.35am Amsterdamned (783282) 2.30 The Beat (4218571) 3.25 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (43800216) 3.50 Quiz Night (37297552) 4.15 Donahue (4524026) 5.05 Freescreen (6112282)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 2.25-3.25 Wish You Were Here...? (58328235) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (4151438) 6.00-6.50 Westcountry Live (213070) 10.40 Crime Stalker (110032) 11.40 Prisoner Cell Block H (654870)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (88020525) 2.50-3.20 Shortland Street (1342612) 3.25-3.30 Calendar News (4414186) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (4151438) *5.55 Calendar* (399032) 6.20-6.50 Crosswits (835490) 10.30 Calendar News and Weather (149709) *10.40* Edit V (483902) 11.25 Prisoner Cell Block H (657867) 12.20am Oceans of Fire (459888) 2.05 America's Top Ten (2381129) 2.35 Cinema, Cinema, *Cinema* (2871020) 3.00 Blind Date (814688) 4.40 Jobfinder (8779787)

S4C
Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (58235) 9.00 Spacecats (83896) 9.30 California Dreams (6292709) 9.55 Gamesmaster (6200728) 10.25 Batman (3988970) 10.55 The Adventures Of Tintin (5440419) 11.20 Pugwalls Summer (5184254) 11.50 Terrytoons (8822167) 12.00pm House To House (63032) *12.30 Slot Meithrin* (12888) 1.00 The Herbs (73785099) 1.15 Dig, Dug And Daisy (73753254) 1.30 Journeyman (11167) 2.00 Keepers Of The Kingdom (24780) 3.00 Deadline (6167) 3.30 Ricki Lake (8083893) 4.20 One Note Tony (5482902) 4.30 The Cosby Show (438) 5.00 5 Pump (1612) 5.30 Fifteen To One (490) 6.00 Newyddion (213254) 6.15 Heno (204457) *7.00 Pobol Y Cwm* (8148) 7.30 Margaret (91070) 8.30 Newyddion (9631) 9.00 O Flaen Dy Lygaid: Pum Dydd*iadur* (6877) *10.00 Rising Damp* (64781) 10.30 Closing Numbers (47594815) 12.20am Secret Lives: Jackie Onassis (3014015)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am The DJ Kat Show (12821) 8.00 The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (20341) 8.30 Blockbusters (29512) 9.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (44693) 10.00 Concentration (81099) 10.30 Card Sharks (18148) 11.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (79934) 12.00 The Urban Peasant (30728) 12.30pm Anything But Love (48964) 1.00 St Elsewhere (44419) 2.00 Matlock (82728) 3.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (9874254) 3.50 The DJ Kat Show (4550235) 4.30 The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (7544) 5.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (8475) *6.00 Murphy Brown* (5708) 6.30 Family Ties (9761) 7.00 Rescue (1254) 7.30 M*A*S*H (8273) 8.00 Highlander (81964) 9.00 Under Suspicion (68598) 10.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (18065) 11.00 Late Show (649264) *11.50* Littlejohn (236964) 12.45am Chances (4868216) 1.30 The New WKRP in Cincinnati (78216) 2.00-6.00 Hit Mix Long Play (2801620)

SKY NEWS
News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (5129457) 9.30 Sky News Extra (10254) 10.30 ABC Nightline (22790) 11.00 News and Business (758070) 1.30pm CBS News (73235) 2.30 Parliament Live (17051) 4.00 News and Business (56780) 5.00 Live at Five (8398051) 6.05 Littlejohn (8090728) 7.30 O.J. Simpson Trial, Live (7484475) 11.30 CBS News (32032) 12.30am ABC News (20113) 1.30 News Extra (89823) 2.30 Parliament Replay (88194) 4.30 CBS News (94007) 5.30-6.00 ABC News (82281)

SKY MOVIES
6.00am Showcase (2209612) 10.00 Straight Talk (1992) (43780) *12.00 The Perfectionist* (1986) (89631) 2.00pm Norma Rae (1979) (95167) 4.00 Thicker Than Blood (1993) (65498099) 5.55 Straight Talk (1992): As 10am (77988815) 7.30 E! News Week in Review (3341) 8.00 Love Field (1992) (87148) 10.00 Deep Cover (1992) (438186) 11.50 SIS Extreme Justice (1993) (324952) 1.30am Woodstock (1970) (5784674) 4.30-6.00 Thicker Than Blood (1993): As 4pm (82262)

SKY MOVIES GOLD
2.00pm Showcase (68051) 4.00 Christmas in July (1940) (7099) 6.00 Bedazzled (1967) (88815) 8.00 Running Scared (1986) (50032) 10.00 Dirty Harry (1971) (694780) 11.45-2.00am The Fugitive Kind (1959) (16258032)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00am Dance, Girl, Dance (1940) (91761) 8.00 The Three Musketeers (1992): Cartoon (41825) 9.00 Aladdin (1993): Animation (60631) 10.00 Colt 45 (1950) (4715877) 11.15 Fifth Avenue Girl (1939) (4350148) 12.40pm Star of Midnight (1935) (9014273) 2.10 Never a Dull Moment (1950) (838254) 4.00 The Three Musketeers (1992): As 8am (58148) 5.00 Aladdin (1993): As 9am (3235) 6.00 Gunsmoke V: One Man's Justice (1993) (18063) 8.00 Dennis (1993) (70649544) 9.40 Mad Dog and Glory (1993) (809512) 11.20 Killer Looks (1992) (478506) 1.00am Fade to Black (1992) (57839) 2.30 The Big Blue (1988) (53262) 4.30-6.00 Gunsmoke V: One Man's Justice (1993): As 6pm (80804)

● For more film information, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday

SKY SPORTS
7.00am Soccer News (5643490) 7.15 The Rugby Club (545273) 8.15 Soccer News (2672772) 8.30 NBA Basketball (16525) 10.30 International Cricket: West Indies v Australia (61728) 12.00 Snooker: The British Open, Live (2061438) 5.00pm The Rugby Club (6341) 6.00 Soccer News (380761) 6.15 Fish Tales (398544) 6.30 World of Rugby Union (2877) 7.00 Snooker: The British Open, Live (744047) 10.00 Soccer News (709677) 10.30 World of Speed and Beauty (41419) 11.00 Snowboard Tour (86994) 11.30-12.00 Get Your Handicap Down (36493)

EUROSPORT
7.30am Equestrianism (15186) 8.30 Figure Skating (87803) 10.30 Motorcycling Magazine (69815) 11.00 Formula One (96322) 11.30 Eurofun (97051) 12.00 Live Tennis (1524877) 6.30pm News (2083) 7.00 Combat Sports (43728) 8.00 Wrestling (29148) 9.00 Football (17815) 10.30 Football (93032) 12.00-12.30am Eurosport News (14804)

SKY SOAP
8.00am Loving (7503438) 8.30 Peyton Place (7502708) 9.00 As the World Turns (4432070) 10.00 Guiding Light (3623419) 11.00-12.00 Another World (3636983)

SKY TRAVEL
12.00 Globetrotter (7506525) 12.30pm Zoo Life (4861525) 1.00 Thailand (3647099) 1.30 *Cook Italian* (4680896) 2.00 Australian Panorama (4460525) 2.30 Travels in Europe — Tuscany and Umbria (8086506) 3.00 *American Vacation* (1382728) 4.00 Travel Guide (5891998) 4.30 Zoo Life (3488362) 5.00 Caribbean Vacation (4451877) 5.30 Cook Italian (5496542) 6.00 Tuscany and Umbria (8838065) 6.30 Whicker's World — The Ultimate Package (8286070) 7.30 Australian Panorama (2036821) 8.00 Around the World (4440761) 8.30 Sky Travel Guide (4469896) 9.00 Globetrotter (1367415) 9.30 Whicker's World (2207525) 10.30 Caribbean Vacation (7516902) 11.00 Tuscany and Umbria (1362964) 11.30-12.00 Cruising the Globe (7984631)



Uma Thurman stars as Glory (Movie Channel, 9.40pm)

TLC
9.00am Successful Sugarcraft (5052326) 9.30 Cooking with Kurma (2297525) 10.00 Furniture to Go (2801438) 10.30 Jimmy's (8157790) 11.00 Only Human (4050631) 11.45 *Draw with Don* (40269070) 12.00 Private Lives (5157970) 12.30pm Park High (2291341) 1.00 Cooking With Kurma (4788544) 1.30 Successful Sugarcraft (2290612) 2.00 Who Cares Wins (3439506) 2.30 Jasbirds (8831032) 3.00 The Secret Gardens (3441341) 3.30-4.00 Furniture to Go (8843877)

UK GOLD
7.00am Give Us a Clue (4781631) 7.30 Neighbours (4757436) 8.00 Sons and Daughters (6507411) 8.30 EastEnders (7957952) 9.00 The Bill (3252344) 9.30 Colditz (6045877) 10.30 Angels (6855896) *11.30 Going for Gold* (8379693) 12.00 Sons and Daughters (9852588) 12.30pm Neighbours (2200089) 1.00 EastEnders (4760802) 1.30 The Bill (2292070) 2.00 Father, Dear Father (3431964) 2.30 I Didn't Know You Cared (8833490) *3.00 Knots Landing* (8360709) 4.00 Dallas (8392544) 5.00 Going for Gold (3456544) 5.30 Hi-De-Hi (9925761) 6.30 EastEnders (8865099) 7.00 The Two Ronnies (8304877) 8.00 I Didn't Know You Cared (3451728) 8.30 Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em (3430235) 9.00 Minder (6393761) 10.00 The Bill (8402047) 10.30 Top of the Pops (3930490) 11.10 Carroll's Lib (6512983) 12.05am Dr Who (4467151) 12.35 FILM: *Dangerous Mission* (1954) With Victor Mature and Vincent Price (34116281) 1.50 Candid Camera (48467129) 2.20 *Shopping at Night* (1948804)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL
6.00am Sesame Street (8247761) 6.55 Garfield (8187780) 7.25 Eek the Cat (3091099) 7.55 Degrassi Junior High (3507693) 8.25 Super Mario Brothers (8102070) 8.45 Casper (8272544) 9.00 Sesame Street (40815) 10.00 It's Droibee Time (29709) 12.00 Garfield (94525) 12.30pm Eek the Cat (69231) 1.00 Beverly Hills Teens (80457) 1.30 Super Mario Brothers (90806341) 1.45 Baby Follies (90801896) 2.00 Barney (5362) 2.30 Babar (1984) 3.00 Casper and Friends (4706419) 3.15 Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventures (465438) 3.45 Sonic the Hedgehog (484709) 4.15 Head to Head in 3D (6738612) 4.30-5.00 California Dreams (1728)

NICKELODEON
7.00am NickAlive! (5841032) 7.15 Rude Dog (576983) 7.45 Rugrats (575254) 8.15 Nicktoons (880896) 8.45 NickAlive! (4468032) 9.00 Nick Jr (349864) 12.00 Where on Earth is Carmen San Diego? (58341) 12.30pm *Denver the Last Dinosaur* (72877) 1.00 Smoggies (55186) 1.30 Galaxy High School (71148) 2.00 Alvin and the Chipmunks (1896) 2.30 Henry's Cat (8438) 3.00 Grimmy (3631) 3.30 Where on Earth is Carmen San Diego? (3983) 4.00 Rude Dog (2490) 4.30 Rugrats (1902) 5.00 Clarissa (2148) 5.30 NickAlive! (2254) 6.00 Doug (9167) 6.30-7.00 Secret of the Stones (2849)

DISCOVERY
4.00pm From the Horse's Mouth (8855912) 4.30 Nature Watch (8851896) 5.00 Wings *Over the World* (3432693) 6.00 Invention (5053780) 6.35 Beyond 2000 (5338099) 7.30 Valhalla (8852525) 8.00 Arthur C. Clarke's Universe (3442070) 8.30 RAF Falcons — Skydivers (3438877) 9.00 Elite Fighting Forces (6324631) 10.00 Search for Adventure (6394490) 11.00 Paramedics (8391815) 11.30-12.00 The Arctic (2890322)

BRAVO
12.00 FILM: Manuela (1957): Captain Trevor Howard is led astray by a beautiful stowaway (2818728) 2.00pm thirtysomething (2699693) 3.00 Rat Patrol (3445167) 3.30 *Hogan's Heroes* (8863631) 4.00 FILM: It Started in Paradise (1952). Will a dress designer's world come apart at the seams? With Jane Hylton (3449883) 6.00 Get Smart (8869815) 6.30 FILM: Circus of Fear (1967). Murder-mystery with Christopher Lee (2581761) 8.00 thirtysomething (6308693) 9.00-12.00 The Twilight Zone (8383896) 9.30 FILM: Britannia Hospital (1982): Satire with Leonard Rossiter (4435525)

UK LIVING
6.00am Agony Hour (5982273) 7.00 Living *Magazine* (2579235) 9.00 Go for It (6117254) 9.30 Kate and Allie (1406506) 10.05 The Treatment (1971896) 10.35 The Susan Powter Show (18152615) 11.00 The Young and the Restless (2578506) 12.00 Kilroy (9679070) 12.55pm Food and Drink (6614964) 1.30 *The New Mr and Mrs Show* (1112273) 2.00 Agony Hour (5982186) 3.00 Living Magazine (7359780) 4.00 Infatuation (8278964) 4.30 *Crosswits* (1654612) 5.05 The Joker's Wild (11836693) 5.35 Masterchef (1923322) 6.05 The Susan Powter Show (8301186) 6.30 Brookside (3776964) 7.05 Challenge Anneka (5520983) 8.00 The Young and the Restless (3145506) 9.00 FILM: *Happy Endings* (1983) (30489273) 10.50 Sneak Scenes — Nell (5949070) 11.00 Brookside (7379544) 11.30-12.00 Infatuation UK (5970341)

FAMILY CHANNEL
5.00pm Dangermouse (4902) 5.30 Mighty Jungle (5780) 6.00 The Black Stallion (684964) 6.25 All Clued Up (261877) 7.00 Trivial Pursuit — The Sequel (1438) 7.30 My Two Dads (2457) 8.00 Christy (52490) 9.00 Moonlighting (72254) 10.00 Family Catchphrase (96254) 10.30 GP (55542) 11.00 Lou Grant (67506) 12.00 Rhoda (56804) 12.30am Big Brother Jake (44571) 1.00 Dangermouse (33849) 1.30 Trivial Pursuit (69552) 2.00 Moonlighting (95723) 3.00 Lou Grant (35658) 4.00 Rhoda (13910) 4.30-5.00 Big Brother Jake (47842)

MTV
5.00am Wildside (94184) 6.30 The Grind (32322) 7.00 3 from 1 (1510148) 7.15 Wildside (8069070) 8.00 VJ Ingo (280983) 11.00 Soul (88099) 12.00 Greatest Hits (24254) 1.00pm Afternoon Mix (33902) 2.00 3 from 1 (16215631) 2.15 Afternoon Mix (9580525) 3.00 Cinematic (4708877) 3.15 Afternoon Mix (9871099) 3.30 Sports (5167) *4.00 News* (6724419) 4.15 Afternoon Mix (6730070) 4.30 Dial MTV (3186) 5.00 Dance (3032) 5.30 Music Non-Stop (31148) 7.00 Greatest Hits (65728) 8.00 Most Wanted (14902) 9.30 Beavis and Butt-Head (25983) *10.00 News* (234148) 10.15 Cinematic (255631) 10.30 Live! (73032) 11.00 The End? (21029) 12.30am The Grind (26129) 1.00 Soul (82552) 2.00 Videos (2249804)

VH-1
7.00am Crawling from the Wreckage (3639070) 9.00 Café VH-1 (7867099) 12.00 The Bridge (4862490) 1.00pm VH-1 to 1 REM (3649457) 1.30 *Ten of the Best* (1276070) 2.30 Heart and Soul (8287709) 3.30 Into the Music (7555896) 6.00 Prime Cuts (4891902) 7.00 VH-1 for You (8375235) 8.00 VH-1 Rock (8384983) 9.00 Ten of the Best (8371419) 10.00 The Bridge (4445544) 11.30 The Nightfly (5484612) 2.00am Ten of the Best (2182262) 3.00-7.00 Dawn Patrol

CMT EUROPE
Country music from 6am to 7pm, including at 6.00 Saturday Nite Dance Ranch 6.00-7.00 Big Ticket

ZEE TV
7.00am Asian Morning (61301341) 8.30 *Fata Ful* (43355322) *9.00 Hindi Film* (36975070) 12.00 Tara (43366438) 12.30 Chakravyuha (18558490) 1.00 Hindi Film (48482612) 4.00 Top Ten (99618273) 5.00 Teer Kaman (56493506) 6.30 Zee and U (67365029) 6.00 Swara Bhushan (74010952) 6.30 Song Tere Naam Se (80315344) 7.00 Var Var Parivar (96406070) 7.30 Dillagi (84915308) 8.00 News (96482490) 8.30 Andaz (96401525) 9.00 Doosra Aasman (55181631) 10.00 Horror (43357167) 10.30 Videos (43376815) 11.00 Haveli (99617902) 11.30-12.00 Wah Janab

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT
Continuous cartoons from 5am to 7pm, then TNT films as below.
7.00pm The Painted Veil (1934) (96397728) 9.00 Now, Voyager (1942) (37153438) 11.00 Tennessee Champ (1954) (92850896) 12.15am The Crowd Roars (1938) (41962945) 1.50 Right Cross (1950) (66072910) 3.20-5.00 Knockout (1941) (73992571)

CNN/QVC
CNN provides 24-hour news and QVC is the home shopping channel

Courageous move to limit foreigners

BY MARK SOUSTER AND DAVID HANDS

ENGLISH rugby is on the threshold of a divisive struggle, as a consequence of establishing the most competitive league in the home unions. The first steps have been taken to limit the number of non-England qualified players who may appear in the Courage Clubs Championship, but they will be fought both within and without.

The Rugby Football Union's (RFU) competitions sub-committee has agreed in principle, by an 11-1 majority, to recommend that a maximum of two "foreign" players per club will be allowed to appear in championship matches next season, and one in subsequent seasons. The only exceptions are London's three exile clubs — London Irish, London Scottish and London Welsh — which some in England would exclude anyway from the championship.

The RFU's executive committee, meeting tomorrow, will discuss the issue, which the union seeks to resolve on April 28 at the next full committee meeting, where the decision finally lies.

The debate has been raised by members of the England management, who have been frustrated at the number of matches they attend only to find themselves watching players qualified for other countries. It is thought that, if every known registration was taken up next season, 30 of 150 first XV places in the first division could be occupied by non-Englishmen. England is becoming a "finishing school" for the other home unions, all of whom have thriving exile organisations that are examining the potential — and eligibility — not only of senior players but those appearing in England's representative school and colts teams.

"There is growing concern over the number of players coming from outside England to play in the Courage league," John Elliott, the England selector, said yesterday. "I agree that new regulations would pose problems for the likes of Dave Hilton, Andy Reed and Peter Walton, who were born and raised in England but who have opted to play for Scotland, and I don't know, at this stage, what can be done about that, nor about players moving to England for legitimate business reasons."

Elliott and his colleagues also believe that players such as Simon Geoghegan, at Bath, and Nick Popplewell, at Wasps, may form a focus for Irish players. Already, Keith Wood, the Garryowen hooker, has been linked with Bath, and Jonathan Bell, the Ballymena centre, with Northampton, who, along with West Hartlepool, hold registrations from a variety of Scottish players.

Wales are ready to complete their clean sweep of the former management team today by replacing Ieuan Evans as captain. A World Cup squad of 32 will be named and, though Evans will be part of it, the captaincy is likely to pass to Mike Hall or Gareth Llewellyn.

However, England's Senior Clubs Association (SCA), incorporating the ten first-division clubs primarily affected by the debate, is already angry that a recommendation has been formulated before its members have had the opportunity of a full debate. Frank Gibbon, the chairman of the SCA, from West Hartlepool, contacted the RFU yesterday to express his concern. "We view this with complete disbelief," Gibbon said. "Don't they realise no account has been taken of the human side? We are going to fight it."

Many of his members will view the proposals as an insular move which will affect the cross-fertilisation traditional to English rugby. It could also be said that English rugby should be capable of producing enough quality players of its own capable of holding down places against the challenge from without.

Jim Telfer, the director of rugby of the Scottish Rugby Union, would be happy to see the player-drain south of the border dry up, but not to lose access to potential internationals. "At the moment, we are producing young players who go to England and we lose our role models," he said, "but boys like Andy Reed and Eric Peters wouldn't declare for Scotland if it meant they couldn't play in England, where they live and work."

Alastair McHarg, the former London Scottish lock who now coaches the Scottish Exiles, went further. "It is blatant racial prejudice against United Kingdom citizens, denying them the right to play rugby on the basis of race."

That theme is denied by John Jeavons-Fellows, the chairman of the RFU competitions committee, who says that players can join any English club they like, but could not play in domestic competitions — unless it were for an exile club.

Nonetheless, a legal challenge could arise. David Johnston, the former Scotland centre who coaches Scotland A and is an Edinburgh solicitor, said: "Avenues could include race relations and even, as a long shot, it could be challenged under the 1707 Act of Union."

However, he agreed that, if European legislation were involved, it would have to be shown that rugby was a trade.

Just as a light preliminary, the RFU committee on amateurism sits down today to consider the way forward. It, too, may find itself in a "no-win" situation.

Foreign invaders prepare to continue their conquest of the Masters

Price leads list of overseas talent to bank on

FROM JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT, IN AUGUSTA

OF GOLF'S four major championships, the Open is the oldest and the most distinguished and the Masters is the one which, in a finite world, has an infinite capacity to surprise. The Masters, the first of the year's major championships is not just special, it is really special, and the 59th, which begins here in Georgia this morning, is no exception.

More people watch the Masters on television in the United States than any other golf event. Tickets to attend it are like family heirlooms, handed down from generation to generation. What Bobby Jones, the legendary amateur golfer, conceived as a small invitational event has become a rite of spring, one that fits neatly into the calendar with the college basketball competition known as the Final Four that concludes at the end of March and the baseball season that starts in the first week of April.

If you think that golf is a tranquil sport lacking in thud and blunder then come to Augusta some time. There have been more thrills and spills here than at Billy Smart's Circus, more drama and excitement than in all the theatres of the West End.

Home pride hurt 42
Today's tee-off times 42

Consider, for example, the spectacle of an overweight and short-sighted Jack Nicklaus winning here at the age of 46. Remember Sandy Lyle's stupendous bunker shot and Larry Mize's outrageous chip. Then, to spread gilt on the gingerbread, there have been all those victories by Europeans — nine of the past 15, six of the past seven. Let us paraphrase Rupert Brooke and the famous lines from *The Soldier* "...some corner of a foreign field that is for ever England" and say that this particular acreage of Georgia, which was first an indigo plantation and then a nursery, has been colonised by Europeans.

This year there is an extra ingredient, a subplot entitled "Nick Price goes for three major championships in a row." Accepted wisdom has it that if Price, who already holds the Open and US PGA titles and week-in and week-out is playing the best golf of his life, were to win here he would become the first man since Ben Hogan in 1953 to win three in succession.

It is not so simple as that, however. When Hogan won the US Masters, US Open and the Open in 1953, the US PGA ended in Birmingham, Michigan, on 7 July, which was the second day of qualifying for the Open at Carnoustie. Thus Hogan won the first, second and fourth events of that year, not the first three.

There is every reason to suppose it will be a fallow year for the Americans and there will be another *Ode to Joy* for Europeans. Nine of the world's top-ranked players are non-Americans and Nick Faldo is fourth in the money-list in the United States after a startlingly fast start to his American campaign in which he has had finishes of first, second and fifth in events since the beginning of March. It was after the Masters last year that Faldo decided to commit himself to the United States. After this Masters he could well slip into his third green jacket.

Such a jacket would not look amiss on Colin Montgomerie's shoulders, though his record in the three times he has competed here is nothing to write home about. A 70 is the best of his ten rounds. Montgomerie, who had eight birdies in a practice round on Tuesday, has come to terms with the special pressures imposed by this course. "I feel as if I know my way around," he said. "I know what to expect. I feel more comfortable now."

If the Masters were decided on brains then Montgomerie would tie with Tiger Woods, the sensational American amateur, who is studying at Stanford University. It is not. More than any other competition, the Masters goes to the man with the best short game.

"I've learned that driving here is not the hard part," Woods said. "It is pretty much the easy part. This is a second shot golf course."

Woods, 19, who qualified for the tournament by becoming the youngest winner of the US Amateur title, had to abandon his practice round yesterday complaining of back spasms. However, his father, Earl, said he expected to tee off on schedule today, alongside the defending champion, José María Olazábal.

Augusta is also a course that demands patience, which is why Bernhard Langer's is a name to conjure with. Few cope with adversity as well as he does; few are more determined. The putt he willed into the hole on the 72nd green at the Players' Championship two weeks ago earned him $126,000 (about £79,000) more than if it had missed because it gave him outright second place. There is nothing Langer, playing in his thirteenth Masters, does not know about this course.

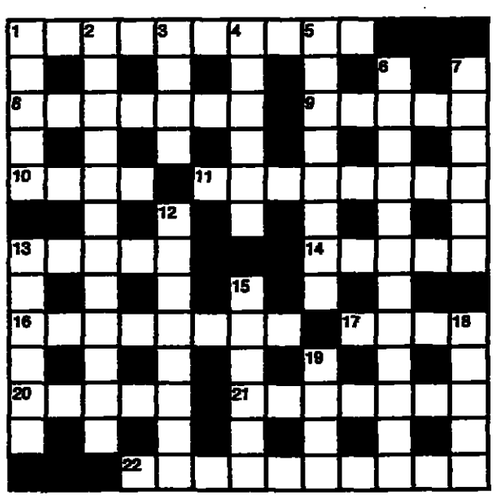
The greens signs are as fast now as on Sunday last year. Greg Norman, who has never won at Augusta, confirmed it. "If the course stays the way it is we are going to have another five days of very difficult conditions, trying conditions and that is the way it should be."

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Price limbers up for his attempt at winning a third succesive major championship

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 439

ACROSS
1 Settler of dispute (10)
8 Gratify, pamper (7)
9 Son of Cain; father of Methuselah (5)
10 Sir Peter –, Dutch portraitist (4)
11 Bar on those too old/young (3,5)
13 Musical form, theme repeats (5)
14 Sloping severely; expensive (5)
16 Illegal occupier (8)
17 In the condition found (2,2)
20 Molten rock (5)
21 Figurative language (7)
22 The diocese of Rome (3,4,3)

DOWN
1 *Tempest* spirit (5)
2 Communication by gesture, pose (4,8)
3 Inform; command (4)
4 (Anchor) clear of sea (6)
5 United in marriage (3,5)
6 Lack of shape (12)
7 Immure; silence! (4,2)
12 Pedestrian way (8)
13 Take up again (6)
15 Lip-smacking delight (6)
18 Panache; attributable method (5)
19 Cry plaintively (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 438
ACROSS: 1 Compunction 7 Tonic 8 Mooring 10 Oracular 11 Gown 13 Hobble 15 Eureka 17 Ajar 18 Hill farm 21 Stand-by 22 Upper 23 One in the eye
DOWN: 1 Cut both ways 2 Mania 3 Uncouple 4 Combat 5 Iron 6 Noisome 9 Gendarmerie 12 Furlough 14 Bravado 16 Pinyin 19 Apple 20 Adze

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Scots prepared to wait for Nicol

BY MARK SOUSTER

THE Scotland rugby union selectors last night announced their squad for the World Cup in South Africa, a day ahead of schedule. The squad is largely as expected, given the spate of injuries suffered by Scotland in the past few weeks.

However, the one surprise, if surprise it is, is that the selectors have named only one scrum half so far — Bryan Redpath, of Melrose. A place has been kept open to give Andy Nicol, of Bath, as long as possible to prove his fitness.

Nicol, who played his first full game, for his club's second XV, for six months at the weekend, reported no ill-effects and is likely to make the party. That means disappointment for Derrick Patterson, of West Hartlepool, who was dropped for the five nations' championship after playing against South Africa in November. The remote hope that Gary Armstrong, Scotland's other long-term scrum half casualty, would recover from his cruciate ligmament injury, proved misplaced.

As expected, after the withdrawal of Gregot Townsend with a similar condition, only 11 backs have been named, among them just two centres — Ian Jardine, who is recovering from a broken cheekbone, and Scott Hastings. Tony Stanger, now playing centre for Hawick, is selected as a wing. Graham Shiel is a replace stand-off half while Cameron Glasgow, the utility back, is picked on the wing.

Fifteen forwards have been named. After Alan Sharp broke down with a recurrence of his back injury, the return of Paul Burnell, overlooked this season, was a formality. The management has refused to gamble on Andy Reed, the Bath lock, who had been making a late bid for selection after recovering from a back injury. His lack of match fitness counted against him.

In the second row, Jeremy Richardson, of Edinburgh Academicals, is chosen along with Doddie Weir, of Melrose, as well as Stewart Campbell and Damian Cronin, who started the five nations' tournament.

Richardson, who will have benefited from the unavailability of Shade Munro, of Glasgow High Kelvinside, won his only cap against South Africa last autumn.

Peter Walton's return to Northampton colours has delighted the selectors. He and Ian Smith, of Gloucester, join the back row trio which impressed so much in the five nations' — Iain Morrison, Eric Peters and Rob Wainwright.

SQUAD: Full back: A G Hastings (Watsonians, captain). Wings: I C Glasgow (Heriot's FP), K M Logan (Stirling Co), C A Joiner (Melrose), A G Stanger (Hawick). Centres: S Hastings (Watsonians), I C Jardine (Stirling Co). Stand-off halves: A G Shiel, C M Chalmers (both Melrose). Scrum halves: B W Redpath (Melrose), A N Other.
Props: D Hilton (Bath), J Manson (Dundee HSFP), P Wright (Boroughmuir), A P Burnell (London Scottish). Hookers: K S Milne (Heriot's FP), K D McKenzie (Stirling Co). Locks: S Campbell (Dundee HSFP), D Cronin (Bourges), J F Richardson (Edinburgh Acad), G W Weir (Melrose). Flankers: R I Wainwright (W Hartlepool), P Walton (Northampton), I R Morrison (London Scottish), I R Smith (Gloucester). No 8: E Peters (Bath).

Warren's boxers switch over to Sky

BY JOHN GOODBODY

SKY Sports yesterday pulled off the biggest exclusive deal in British boxing, at an estimated cost of £50 million over two years, to screen the comeback fight of Mike Tyson and contests involving such leading Britons as Frank Bruno, Nigel Benn and "Prince" Naseem Hamed.

Frank Warren's large stable of boxers, previously featured on ITV, will now be seen in tournaments on Sky. There are expected to be up to 35 extra boxing promotions each year on the satellite channel.

The contract is a blow to ITV because boxing is one of the few sports that it has been showing regularly. Sky, with two dedicated sports channels, has been able to guarantee both the money and a large number of dates, something the terrestrial channel could not match.

Because Warren has Don King, Tyson's promoter, as his partner, this will pave the way for Sky to show the early bouts of the former world champion, whose first contest since being released from prison is expected to be in July in Las Vegas.

However, the first fight of the new contract will be the World Boxing Organisation (WBO) world flyweight championship between Robbie Regan and Alberto Jimenez on April 22. Then, on May 6, Hamed will meet Enrique Angeles for the World Boxing Council (WBC) international super-bantamweight title. A week later, Bruno will meet Ray Anis in a heavyweight bout in Glasgow before, on June 10, Steve Robinson defends his WBO featherweight title against Fabrizio Cappai in Cardiff.

The chances of a third bout between Benn and Chris Eubank have improved because Eubank is already contracted to Sky, as is the heavyweight, Herbie Hide, both through the promoter, Barry Hearn.

Warren wants to stage Bruno's fourth world title bout in July in London. This should be against the winner of the contest for the WBC title between Oliver McCall and Larry Holmes in Las Vegas on Saturday.

Warren said that he had enjoyed a "very good association with ITV." However, what appealed to him was that Sky television had a designated sports channel. "It will allow me to develop up-and-coming boxers. This is very important for British boxing."

A spokeswoman for ITV said: "Frank Warren's fighters have served us very well in the past and we are sad that our relationship has come to an end. However, this does not necessarily mean the end of boxing on ITV."

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